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(54) COMPOUNDS SUITABLE FOR TREATMENT OF HAEMOPHILIA

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- (60) Provisional application No. 61/641,434, filed on May 2, 2012, provisional application No. 61/752,612, filed on Jan. 15, 2013.

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- (58) **Field of Classification Search**CPC A61K 38/37; A61K 9/0019; C07K 14/755
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(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to Von Willebrand (VWF) compounds as well as compositions suitable for treatment of blood clotting diseases. The present invention also relates to pharmaceutical compositions, freeze-dried or liquid, comprising (i) a Factor VIII molecule and (ii) a VWF compound.

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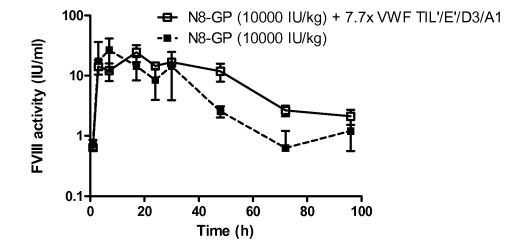


Fig. 1

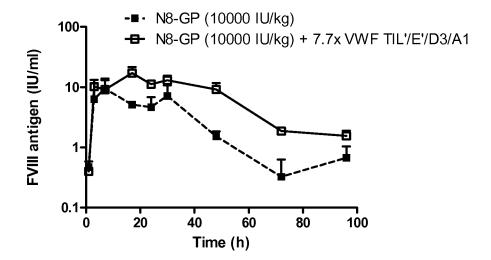


Fig. 2

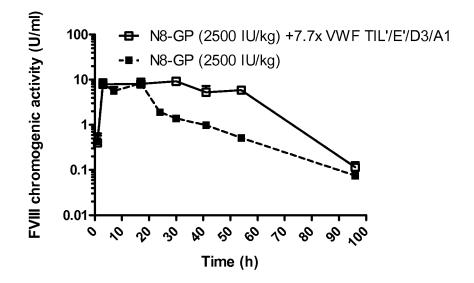


Fig. 3

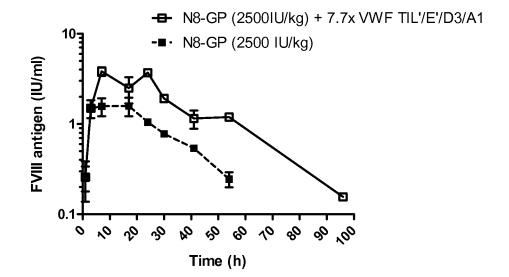


Fig. 4

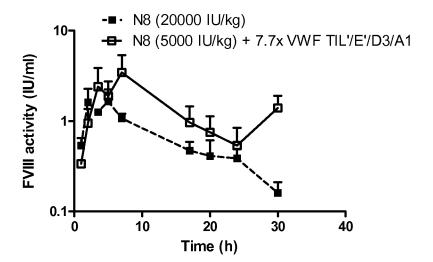


Fig. 5

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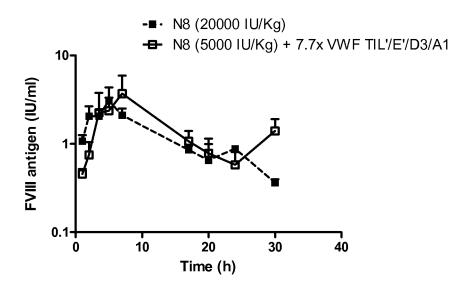


Fig. 6

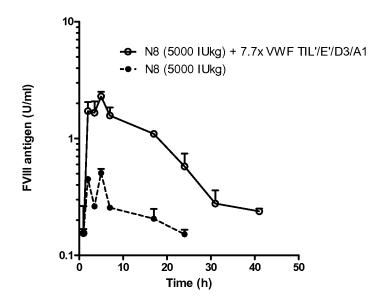


Fig 7

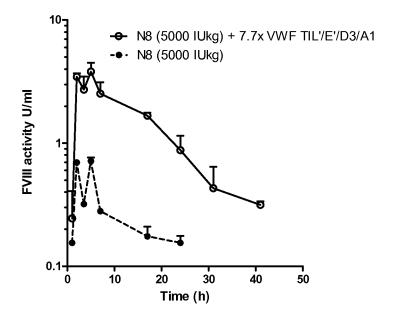


Fig. 8

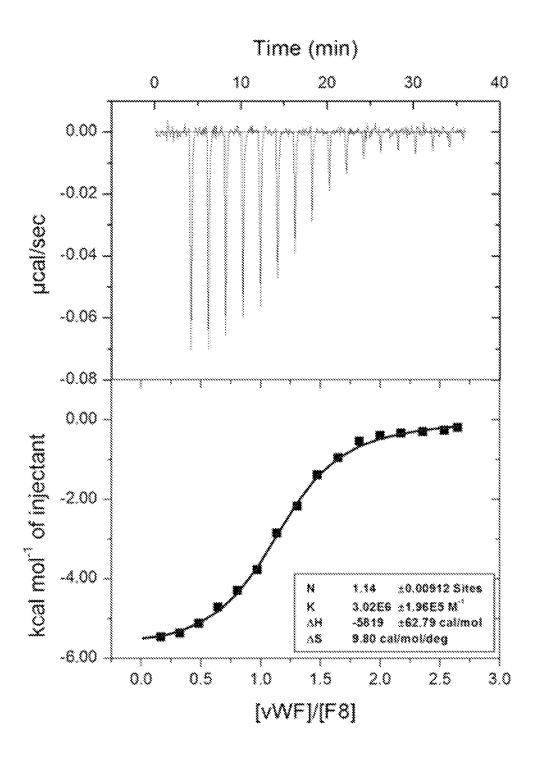


Fig. 9

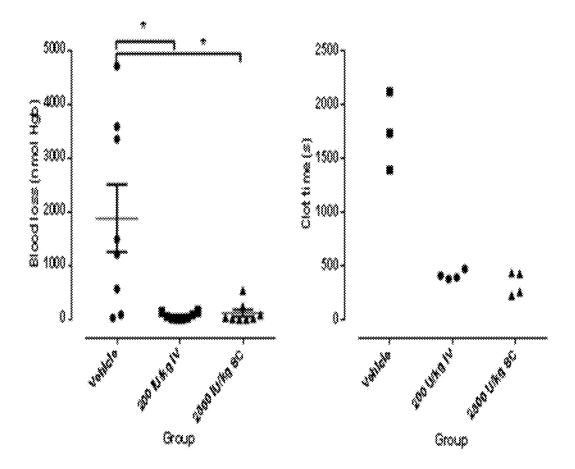


Fig. 10

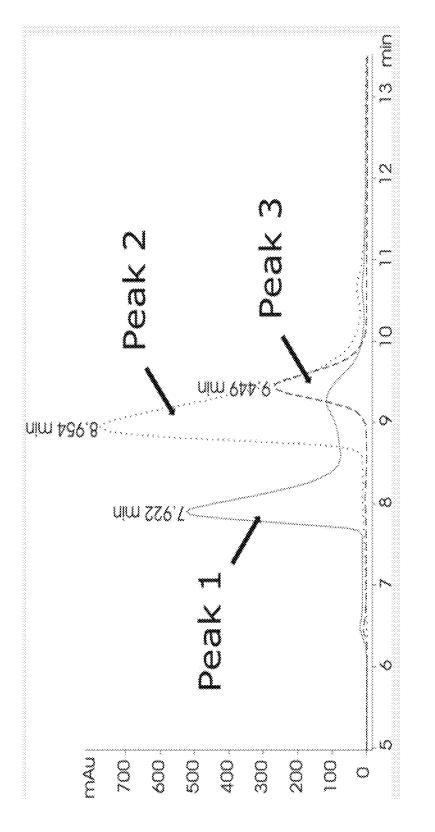
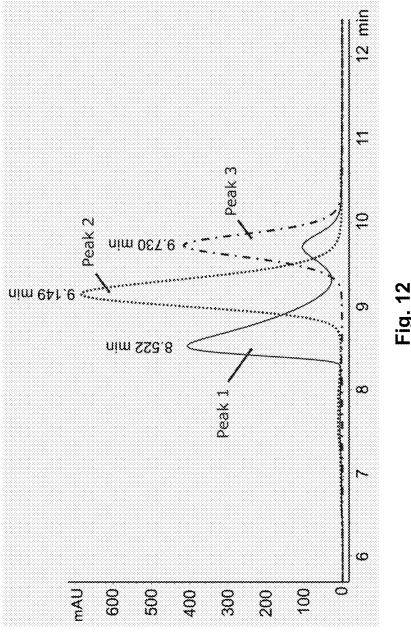


Fig. 11



COMPOUNDS SUITABLE FOR TREATMENT OF HAEMOPHILIA

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of International Application Serial No. PCT/EP2013/055106, filed Mar. 13, 2013, which claimed priority of European Patent Application 12165301.8, filed Apr. 24, 2012 and European Patent Application 13150576.0, filed Jan. 9, 2013; this application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of U.S. Provisional application 61/641,434, filed May 2, 2012 and U.S. Provisional application 61/752,612, filed Jan. 15, 2013; the contents of all above-named applications are incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to treatment and/or prophylaxis of haemophilia.

BACKGROUND

Protein replacement therapy by intravenous administration of coagulation factors is currently used for treating patients suffering from haemophilia. For patient convenience and compliance, extravascular (e.g. subcutaneous (s.c.) or intradermal) administration would be preferable to the existing intravenous (i.v.) injections. There are furthermore potential safety advantages associated with extravascular administration, since many patients could avoid intravenous port surgery as well as the risk of infection and clots associated with insertion of such catheters.

S.c. administration of FVIII in FVIII deficient mice is disclosed in Shi et al, Haemophilia, 2012, DOI: 10.1111/j.1365-2516.2011.02735.x. The bioavailability of FVIII is ³⁵ herein reported to be low (about 1%).

S.c. administration of FVIII and VWF is furthermore disclosed in WO08151817 but no dose response relationship between the FVIII dose and the achieved circulating FVIII concentration is disclosed. In WO815817, the (Unit) ratio of VWF over FVIII was larger than 5:1, corresponding to a 150-250 fold molar excess of the concentration of VWF protein as compared to that of FVIII. From a practical and economical pint of view, this type of ratios are, however, not desirable. In WO08151817, it is furthermore shown that the immunogenicity in mice of s.c. administered FVIII is significantly reduced when FVIII is co-formulated with VWF.

In WO10062768, it is disclosed that PEGylation of FVIII can improve the bioavailability of FVIII in connection with subcutaneous injection into mice, whereas co-formulation with VWF does not improve the bioavailability of FVIII.

There is a need in the art for compounds and/or pharmaceutical compositions suitable for extravascular administration in treatment and/or prophylaxis of patients suffering from blood clotting diseases such as haemophilia A with or without inhibitors, and/or von Willebrand disease, as such administration forms would alleviate the burden of i.v. treatment both related to the infusion as such and also the risk of infections due to implanted portable catheters. Such compounds and compositions are preferably safe (i.e. have a low risk of immunogenicity) and/or have a high bioavailability and/or are preferably easy to handle in connection with production and formulation processes.

SUMMARY

The present invention relates to a recombinant VWF fragment comprising 1200 amino acids or less, such as e.g. the 2

TIL' domain or the TIL'/E' domain (Zhou et al. Blood 2012; 120(2): 449-458). The present invention furthermore relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising: (i) a VWF fragment according to the invention and (ii) FVIII molecule (full-length/truncated B domain/conjugated). The present invention furthermore relates to use thereof for treatment of haemophilia, e.g. by extravascular administration. Such compounds and compositions will preferably result in a relatively high FVIII bioavailability and/or a relatively low risk of FVIII immunogenicity in connection with extravascular co-administration of FVIII.

DESCRIPTION

In one aspect of the invention, VWF fragments according to the invention co-administered with FVIII molecules having a prolonged in vivo circulatory half-life have a surprisingly high bioavailability in connection with extravascular (e.g. s.c.) administration thereof.

The inventors of the present invention have furthermore made the surprising observation that bioavailability of FVIII molecules may be significantly improved upon extravascular co-administration with similar molar amounts of VWF fragments according to the invention. Alternatively, high bioavailability may be achieved through extravascular co-administration of a pool of FVIII molecules, wherein the majority of said FVIII molecules are bound to VWF fragments according to the invention. Interestingly, full length VWF does not have a positive impact on the bioavailability of FVIII. Preferably, VWF should be in the form of a VWF fragment that comprise the TIL' or the TIL'/E' domains. Compounds and compositions according to the present invention are thus useful for treatment and prophylaxis of haemophilia patients (in particular haemophilia A patients) with and without inhibitors, as well as for immune tolerance induction (ITI) of haemophilia patients with inhibitors.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1: FVIII activity in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 10000 U/kg "N8-GP" with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to N8-GP. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point. "N8-GP" is a glyco-PEGylated FVIII molecule produced as described in Examples 1+2 in WO2009108806.

FIG. 2: FVIII antigen in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 10000 U/kg N8-GP with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to N8-GP. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point

FIG. 3: FVIII activity in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 2500 U/kg N8-GP with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to N8-GP. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point

FIG. 4: FVIII antigen in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 2500 U/kg N8-GP with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to N8-GP. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point.

FIG. 5: FVIII activity in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 5000 or 20000 IU/kg wt FVIII (N8, turoctocog alfa) with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to FVIII, respectively. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point. "N8"/"turocotog alfa" is

a B domain truncated FVIII molecule produced as described in Example 1 in WO2009108806.

FIG. 6: FVIII antigen in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 5000 or 20000 IU/kg wt FVIII (N8, turoctocog alfa) with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to FVIII. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point.

FIG. 7: FVIII antigen in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 5000 IU/kg FVIII (N8, turoctocog alfa) with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to FVIII. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point.

FIG. **8**: FVIII activity in plasma after subcutaneous administration of 5000 IU/kg FVIII (N8, turoctocog alfa) with or without co-administration of 7.7 times the molar dose of VWF TIL'/E'/D3/A1 relatively to FVIII. Data are mean and standard deviation of measurements from n=2 FVIII KO mice per time point.

FIG. 9: VWF variant (764-865 SEQ ID NO 5) binding to FVIII (N8, turoctocog alfa) at 20° C. The upper panel shows raw data of heat released upon each titration. Lower panel shows binding isotherm obtained from integrating raw data. Data analysis shows that VWF variant (SEQ ID NO 5) binds 25 to FVIII in an exothermic reaction with a stoichiometry of 1.14, Δ H of –5.82 kcal/mole, Δ S of 9.8 cal/mol/deg and a K_d of 0.33 μ M. "F8/N8/turoctocog alfa" is a B domain truncated FVIII molecule produced as disclosed in Example 1 in WO2009108806.

FIG. 10: s.c. administrated N8-GP is haemostatic effective in vivo. The left panel shows blood loss in FVIIIKO mice treated s.c. with N8-GP or vehicle 24 hr before tail transection, or i.v. 5 min before tail transection. N8-GP" is a glyco-PEGylated FVIII molecule produced as described in 35 Examples 1+2 in WO2009108806. The right panel shows clot times in whole blood from the mice ex vivo using ROTEM.

FIG. 11: SEC-UV (280 nm) chromatograms for FVIII, TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III, and a mixture of FVIII and TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III in 155 mM NaCl, 10 mM Calciumacetat, 10% Isopropanol 40 at 25° C.

FIG. 12:. SEC-UV (280 nm) chromatograms for FVIII, TIL'/E'/D3 II, and a mixture of FVIII and TIL'/E'/D3 II in 155 mM NaCl, 10 mM Calciumacetat, 10% Isopropanol at 25° C.

DEFINITIONS

The term "treatment", as used herein, refers to the medical therapy of any human or other vertebrate subject in need thereof. Said subject is expected to have undergone physical 50 examination by a medical practitioner, or a veterinary medical practitioner, who has given a tentative or definitive diagnosis which would indicate that the use of said specific treatment is beneficial to treating a disease in said human or other vertebrate. The timing and purpose of said treatment may 55 vary from one individual to another, according to the subject's health. Thus, said treatment may be prophylactic, palliative, symptomatic and/or curative.

Mode of Administration: Compounds and pharmaceutical compositions according to the invention may be administered 60 parenterally, such as e.g. intravenously or extravascularly (such as e.g. intradermally, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, etc). Compounds and pharmaceutical compositions according to the invention may be administered prophylactically and/or therapeutically and/or on demand. According to the 65 present invention, several advantages are associated with extravascular administration of compounds/pharmaceutical

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compositions according to the present invention. Extravascular administration is easier, simpler, and associated with less pain, inconvenience, and complications (and thus potentially resulting in better compliance) which is of potential benefit to all patients but of particular benefit for children and small infants.

Combination Treatments/Co-Administration: Combined administration of two or more active compounds (e.g. FVIII and VWF/VWF fragments according to the invention having the ability to bind to FVIII) may be achieved in a number of different ways. In one embodiment, the two active compounds may be administered together in a single composition. In another embodiment, the two active compounds may be administered in separate compositions as part of a combined therapy. For example, the first compound may be administered before, after, or concurrently with the second compound. In case FVIII and VWF fragment are administered extravascularly (e.g. subcutaneously) as two separate pharmaceutical compositions, they are preferably administered in 20 close proximity in order to benefit from the improved bioavailability that can be obtained when administering these two types of compounds together (i.e. the injection sites should be separated by no more than 5 cm, preferably no more than 4 cm, preferably no more than 3 cm, preferably no more than 2 cm, and most preferably no more than 1 cm). The two compounds should preferably also be injected within about an hour, preferably within about 30 minutes, preferably within about 15 minutes, and most preferably within about 5 minutes.

Factor VIII: Factor VIII (FVIII) is a large, complex glycoprotein that is primarily produced by hepatocytes. Human FVIII comprises 2351 amino acids, including a signal peptide, and contains several distinct domains as defined by homology. There are three A-domains, a unique B-domain, and two C-domains. The domain order can be listed as NH2-A1-A2-B-A3-C1-C2-COOH. The chains are connected by bivalent metal ion-bindings. The A1-A2-B chain is termed the heavy chain (HC) while the A3-C1-C2 is termed the light chain (LC). Small acidic regions C-terminal of the A1 (the a1 region) and A2 (the a2 region) and N-terminal of the A3 domain (the a3 region) play important roles in its interaction with other coagulation proteins, including thrombin and von Willebrand factor (VWF), the carrier protein for FVIII.

Endogenous FVIII molecules circulate in vivo as a pool of molecules with B domains of various sizes, the shortest having C-terminal at position 740, i.e. at the C-terminal of A2-a2, and thus contains no B domain. These FVIII molecules with B-domains of different length all have full procoagulant activity. Upon activation with thrombin, FVIII is cleaved C-terminal of A1-a1 at position 372, C-terminal of A2-a2 at position 740, and between a3 and A3 at position 1689, the latter cleavage releasing the a3 region with concomitant loss of affinity for VWF. The activated FVIII molecule is termed FVIIIa. The activation allows interaction of FVIIIa with phospholipid surfaces like activated platelets and activated factor IX (FIXa), i.e. the tenase complex is formed, allowing efficient activation of factor X (FX).

The terms "Factor VIII(a)" and "FVIII(a)" include both FVIII and FVIIIa. Similarly, the term "Factor VIII" and "FVIII" may include both FVIII and FVIIIa. "Factor VIII" or "FVIII" as used herein refers to a human plasma glycoprotein that is a member of the intrinsic coagulation pathway and is essential to blood coagulation. "Wildtype(wt)/native FVIII" is the human FVIII molecule derived from the full length sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 (amino acid 1-2332). "FVIII(a)" includes natural allelic variants of FVIII(a) that may exist and occur from one individual to another. FVIII(a)

may be plasma-derived or recombinantly produced, using well known methods of production and purification. The degree and location of glycosylation, tyrosine sulfation and other post-translation modifications may vary, depending on the chosen host cell and its growth conditions.

Pharmaceutical compositions according to the present invention may comprise native or B domain-truncated FVIII molecules wherein the remaining domains correspond closely to the sequences as set forth in amino acid numbers 1-740 and 1649-2332 of SEQ ID NO: 3. In such molecules, as well as in FVIII comprising the full-length B domain amino acid sequence, mutations may be introduced. Amino acid modifications, such as substitutions, insertions, and deletions, may be introduced into the molecule in order to modify the binding capacity of FVIII with various other components such as low-density lipoprotein receptor-related protein (LRP) and related receptors, various other receptors, other coagulation factors, cell surfaces, introduction and/or abolishment of glycosylation sites, etc. Other mutations that do $_{20}$ not abolish FVIII activity may also be accommodated in the FVIII molecules herein.

FVIII molecules herein (molecules/variants/derivatives/ analogues/conjugates) are capable of functioning in the coagulation cascade in a manner that is functionally similar, or equivalent, to wt/endogenous FVIII, inducing the formation of FXa via interaction with FIXa on an activated platelet and supporting the formation of a blood clot. FVIII activity can be assessed in vitro using techniques well known in the art. Clot analyses, FX activation assays (often termed chromogenic assays), thrombin generation assays and whole blood thrombo-elastography are examples of such in vitro techniques. FVIII molecules according to the present inven-

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tion have FVIII activity that is at least about 10%, at least about 20%, at least about 30%, at least about 40%, at least about 50%, at least about 60%, at least about 70%, at least about 80%, at least about 90%, 100% or even more than 100% of that of native human FVIII.

Endogenous full length FVIII is synthesized as a single-chain precursor molecule. Prior to secretion, the precursor is cleaved into the heavy chain and the light chain. Recombinant B domain-deleted or truncated FVIII can be produced by means of two different strategies. Either the heavy chain without the B-domain and the light chain are synthesized individually as two different polypeptide chains (two-chain strategy) or the B domain-deleted or truncated FVIII is synthesized as a single precursor polypeptide chain (single-chain strategy) that is cleaved into the heavy and light chains in the same way as the full-length FVIII precursor.

In a B domain-deleted or truncated FVIII precursor polypeptide, produced by the single-chain strategy, the heavy and light chain moieties are often separated by a linker. To minimize the risk of introducing immunogenic epitopes in the B domain-deleted FVIII, the sequence of the linker is preferably derived from the FVIII B-domain. In the B domain of full length FVIII, amino acid 1644-1648 constitutes this recognition site. The thrombin cleavage site leading to removal of the linker on activation of B domain-deleted FVIII is located in the heavy chain. Thus, the size and amino acid sequence of the linker is unlikely to influence its removal from the remaining FVIII molecule by thrombin activation. Deletion/truncation of the B domain is an advantage for production of FVIII. Nevertheless, parts of the B domain can be included in the linker without reducing the productivity. The negative effect of the B domain on productivity has not been attributed to any specific size or sequence of the B domain.

SEQ ID NO: 1: wt human FVIII (Ser750 residue shown in bold and underline) ATRRYYLGAVELSWDYMOSDLGELPVDARFPPRVPKSFPFNTSVVYKKTLFVEFT DHI.FNTAKPRPPWMGI.I.GPTTOAEVYDTVVTTI.KNMASHPVSI.HAVGVSYWKASEGAEYDD OTSOREKEDDKVFPGGSHTYVWOVLKENGPMASDPLCLTYSYLSHVDLVKDLNSGLTGALL VCREGSLAKEKTOTLHKFILLFAVFDEGKSWHSETKNSLMODRDAASARAWPKMHTVNGY VNRSLPGLIGCHRKSVYWHVIGMGTTPEVHSIFLEGHTFLVRNHROASLEISPITFLTAOTLL MDLGQFLLFCHISSHQHDGMEAYVKVDSCPEEPQLRMKNNEEAEDYDDDLTDSEMDVVRF DDDNSPSFIQIRSVAKKHPKTWVHYIAAEEEDWDYAPLVLAPDDRSYKSQYLNNGPQRIGR ${\tt KYKKVRFMAYTDETFKTREAIQHESGILGPLLYGEVGDTLLIIFKNQASRPYNIYPHGITDVRP}$ $\verb|LYSRRLPKGVKHLKDFPILPGEIFKYKWTVTVEDGPTKSDPRCLTRYYSSFVNMERDLASGLI|$ GPLLICYKESVDQRGNQIMSDKRNVILFSVFDENRSWYLTENIQRFLPNPAGVQLEDPEFQA ${\tt SNIMHSINGYVFDSLQLSVCLHEVAYWYILSIGAQTDFLSVFFSGYTFKHKMVYEDTLTLFPF}$ SGETVFMSMENPGLWILGCHNSDFRNRGMTALLKVSSCDKNTGDYYEDSYEDISAYLLSKN NAIEPRSFSQNSRHPSTRQKQFNATTIPENDIEKTDPWFAHRTPMPKIQNVSSSDLLMLLRQ ${\tt SPTPHGLSLSDLQEAKYETFSDDPSPGAIDSNNSLSEMTHFRPQLHHSGDMVFTPESGLQL}$ RINEKLGTTAATELKKI.DEKVSSTSNNI.TSTTPSDNI.AAGTDNTSSLGPPSMPVHYDSOLDTT LFGKKSSPLTESGGPLSLSEENNDSKLLESGLMNSQESSWGKNVSSTESGRLFKGKRAHG PALLTKONALFKVSISLLKTNKTSNNSATNRKTHIDGPSLLIENSPSVWONILESDTEFKKVTP LIHDRMLMDKNATALRLNHMSNKTTSSKNMEMVOOKKEGPIPPDAONPDMSFFKMLFLPES ARWIQRTHGKNSLNSGQGPSPKQLVSLGPEKSVEGQNFLSEKNKVVVGKGEFTKDVGLKE

LLSTRQNVEGSYDGAYAPVLQDFRSLNDSTNRTKKHTAHFSKKGEEENLEGLGNQTKQIVE
KYACTTRISPNTSQQNFVTQRSKRALKQFRLPLEETELEKRIIVDDTSTQWSKNMKHLTPSTL
TQIDYNEKEKGAITQSPLSDCLTRSHSIPQANRSPLPIAKVSSFPSIRPIYLTRVLFQDNSSHL

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MVFPSSRNLFLTNLDNLHENNTHNQEKKIQEEIEKKETLIQENVVLPQIHTVTGTKNFMKNLF

PAASYRKKDSGVQESSHFLQGAKKNNLSLAILTLEMTGDQREVGSLGTSATNSVTYKKVEN

TVLPKPDLPKTSGKVELLPKVHIYQKDLFPTETSNGSPGHLDLVEGSLLQGTEGAIKWNEAN

RPGKVPFLRVATESSAKTPSKLLDPLAWDNHYGTQIPKEEWKSQEKSPEKTAFKKKDTILSL

NACESNHAIAAINEGQNKPEIEVTWAKQGRTERLCSQNPPVLKRHQREITRTTLQSDQEEID

YDDTISVEMKKEDFDIYDEDENQSPRSFQKKTRHYFIAAVERLWDYGMSSSPHVLRNRAQS

GSVPQFKKVVFQEFTDGSFTQPLYRGELNEHLGLLGPYIRAEVEDNIMVTFRNQASRPYSFY

SSLISYEEDQRQGAEPRKNFVKPNETKTYFWKVQHHMAPTKDEFDCKAWAYFSDVDLEKD

VHSGLIGPLLVCHTNTLNPAHGRQVTVQEFALFFTIFDETKSWYFTENMERNCRAPCNIQME

DPTFKENYRFHAINGYIMDTLPGLVMAQDQRIRWYLLSMGSNENIHSIHFSGHVFTVRKKEE

YKMALYNLYPGVFETVEMLPSKAGIWRVECLIGEHLHAGMSTLFLVYSNKCQTPLGMASGHI

RDFQITASGQYGQWAPKLARLHYSGSINAWSTKEPFSWIKVDLLAPMIIHGIKTQGARQKFS

STLRMELMGCDLNSCSMPLGMESKAISDAQITASSYFTNMFATWSPSKARLHLQGRSNAW

 $\verb"RPQVNNPKEWLQVDFQKTMKVTGVTTQGVKSLLTSMYVKEFLISSSQDGHQWTLFFQNGK"$

SLYISQFIIMYSLDGKKWQTYRGNSTGTLMVFFGNVDSSGIKHNIFNPPIIARYIRLHPTHYSIR

 $\tt VKVFQGNQDSFTPVVNSLDPPLLTRYLRIHPQSWVHQIALRMEVLGCEAQDLY$

The B domain in FVIII spans amino acids 741-1648 of SEQ ID NO: 1. The B domain is cleaved at several different sites, generating large heterogeneity in circulating plasma FVIII 35 molecules. The exact function of the heavily glycosylated B domain is unknown. What is known is that the B domain is dispensable for FVIII activity in the coagulation cascade. Recombinant FVIII is thus frequently produced in the form of B domain-deleted/truncated variants. In a preferred embodi- 40 ment, the FVIII molecule is produced by an expression vector encoding a FVIII molecule comprising a 21 amino acid residue L (linker) sequence with the following sequence: SEQ ID NO 2: SFSQNSRHPSQNPPVLKRHQR (the O-glycan is attached to the underlined S). Alternative preferred B domain 45 linker sequences may lack one or more of the amino acid residues set forth in SEQ ID NO 2, e.g. the C-terminal R in SEQ ID NO 2. Preferred FVIII molecules are B domain deleted/truncated variants comprising an O-glycan attached to the Ser 750 residue shown in SEQ ID NO 1—optionally 50 being conjugated to a polymeric (half-life extending) moiety via this O-glycan.

The inventors of the present invention have made the surprising observation that B domain deleted FVIII molecules

according to the invention having a B domain of a size from about 100 to about 400 amino acids ((preferably 150-650, more preferably 150-600, more preferably 150-550, more preferably 150-500, more preferably 150-450, more preferably 150-400, more preferably 150-350, more preferably 200-700, more preferably 200-600, more preferably 200-500, more preferably 200-400, more preferably 200-300, and most preferably about 200 to 250) have a surprisingly high bioavailability in connection with extravascular (e.g. s.c.) administration compared to e.g. FVIII molecules having the entire B domain intact as well FVIII molecules having no or only a few amino acids (e.g. 15-30 amino acids) intact. Such molecules may or may not comprise the Ser750 residue according to SEQ ID NO 1. A simple and safe way of producing FVIII having improved bioavailability upon subcutaneous/intradermal administration is thus provided. It is plausible that the in vivo circulatory half-life of FVIII having B domains of 100 to about 400 amino acids may be prolonged by conjugating/ fusing such variants with a half-life extending moiety. An example of a FVIII molecule comprising a 226 amino acid B domain is shown in SEQ ID NO 3:

SEQ ID NO 3: (226 amino acid B domain variant): ATRRYYLGAVELSWDYMQSDLGELPVDARFPPRVPKSFPFNTSVVYKKTLFVEFT

 $\verb|DHLFNIAKPRPPWMGLLGPTIQAEVYDTVVITLKNMASHPVSLHAVGVSYWKASEGAEYDD|$

QTSQREKEDDKVFPGGSHTYVWQVLKENGPMASDPLCLTYSYLSHVDLVKDLNSGLIGALL

VCREGSLAKEKTQTLHKFILLFAVFDEGKSWHSETKNSLMQDRDAASARAWPKMHTVNGY

VNRSLPGLIGCHRKSVYWHVIGMGTTPEVHSIFLEGHTFLVRNHRQASLEISPITFLTAQTLL

 $\verb|MDLGQFLLFCHISSHQHDGMEAYVKVDSCPEEPQLRMKNNEEAEDYDDDLTDSEMDVVRF|$

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DDDNSPSFIQIRSVAKKHPKTWVHYIAAEEEDWDYAPLVLAPDDRSYKSQYLNNGPQRIGR KYKKVRFMAYTDETFKTREAIQHESGILGPLLYGEVGDTLLIIFKNQASRPYNIYPHGITDVRP LYSRRLPKGVKHLKDFPILPGEIFKYKWTVTVEDGPTKSDPRCLTRYYSSFVNMERDLASGLI GPLLICYKESVDQRGNQIMSDKRNVILFSVFDENRSWYLTENIQRFLPNPAGVQLEDPEFQA ${\tt SNIMHSINGYVFDSLQLSVCLHEVAYWYILSIGAQTDFLSVFFSGYTFKHKMVYEDTLTLFPF}$ SGETVFMSMENPGLWILGCHNSDFRNRGMTALLKVSSCDKNTGDYYEDSYEDISAYLLSKN ${\tt NAIEPRSFSQNSRHPSTRQKQFNATTIPENDIEKTDPWFAHRTPMPKIQNVSSSDLLMLLRQ}$ SPTPHGLSLSDLQEAKYETFSDDPSPGAIDSNNSLSEMTHFRPQLHHSGDMVFTPESGLQL RLNEKLGTTAATELKKLDFKVSSTSNNLISTIPSDNLAAGTDNTSSLGPPSMPVHYDSQLDTT LFGKKSSPLTESGGPLSLSEENNDSKLLESGLMNSQESSWGKNVSHHHHHHSQNPPVLKR HOREITRTTLOSDOEEIDYDDTISVEMKKEDFDIYDEDENOSPRSFOKKTRHYFIAAVERLW DYGMSSSPHYLRNRAOSGSVPOFKKVVFOEFTDGSFTOPLYRGELNEHLGLLGPYTRAEVE DNIMVTFRNOASRPYSFYSSLISYEEDOROGAEPRKNFVKPNETKTYFWKVOHHMAPTKDE FDCKAWAYFSDVDLEKDVHSGLIGPLLVCHTNTLNPAHGRQVTVQEFALFFTIFDETKSWYF TENMERNCRAPCNIQMEDPTFKENYRFHAINGYIMDTLPGLVMAQDQRIRWYLLSMGSNEN IHSIHFSGHVFTVRKKEEYKMALYNLYPGVFETVEMLPSKAGIWRVECLIGEHLHAGMSTLFL $\verb|VYSNKCQTPLGMASGHIRDFQITASGQYGQWAPKLARLHYSGSINAWSTKEPFSWIKVDLL|\\$ APMIIHGIKTQGARQKFSSLYISQFIIMYSLDGKKWQTYRGNSTGTLMVFFGNVDSSGIKHNIF ${\tt NPPIIARYIRLHPTHYSIRSTLRMELMGCDLNSCSMPLGMESKAISDAQITASSYFTNMFATW}$ SPSKARLHLQGRSNAWRPQVNNPKEWLQVDFQKTMKVTGVTTQGVKSLLTSMYVKEFLIS SSQDGHQWTLFFQNGKVKVFQGNQDSFTPVVNSLDPPLLTRYLRIHPQSWVHQIALRMEVL GCEAQDLY

Von Willebrand Factor (VWF) is a blood glycoprotein involved in hemostasis. It is deficient or defective in von Willebrand disease which is the most common hereditary 40 bleeding disorder. VWF is a large multimeric glycoprotein present in blood plasma and produced constitutively in endothelium, megakaryocytes, and subendothelial connective tissue. The basic VWF monomer is a 2050 amino acid protein. Each monomer contains a number of specific domains with a 45 specific function, including the TIL' or TIL'/E' domain (Zhou et al. Blood 2012; 120(2): 449-458) which binds to FVIII. FVIII is bound to VWF while inactive in circulation and is released from VWF by the action of thrombin. FVIII(a) not bound to VWF is rapidly cleared and/or degraded. It is shown 50 herein, that full-length VWF does not have the ability to significantly increase bioavailability of extra-vascularly coadministered FVIII despite of its inherent FVIII protective effects.

The full length VWF molecule is thus a very complex 55 protein. The prepro VWF consists of 2813 amino acid residues (SEQ ID NO 22). During secretion, the signal peptide from amino acid residue 1 to 22 and the propeptide from amino acid residue 23 to 763 are cleaved off, leaving a mature VWF of 2050 amino acid residues. The amino acid numbering is thus often based on the prepro VWF and amino acid S764 is thus the first amino acid in the mature molecule. The mature molecule is believed to contain 12 Asn-linked and 10 Thr/Ser linked oligosaccharide side chains. Furthermore this molecule can form dimers, trimers etc. with multimer molecule weight of up to several million Daltons. Different allelic VWF variants are found in human beings and it is thus under-

stood that VWF fragments according to the present invention can be derived from any one of these naturally occurring variants.

The glycosylation heterogeneity, together with the multimer forming properties, of the full length molecule makes it quite challenging to construct an expression system and a downstream purification procedure for a pharmaceutical composition of VWF.

The understanding of the organization and the boundaries of domains in VWF is not yet complete. Only the so-called A domains are well characterized and their crystal structures determined. The chemical assignments of di-sulfides within VWF are limited. However, recent studies on homologies of domains in VWF to domains in and other proteins suggest that several disulfide bonds may be formed. The domain definition of VWF described in Zhou et al. Blood 2012; 120, 449-458 is used herein.

The present invention relates to VWF fragments that are preferably easier to produce than the full length molecule. VWF fragments according to the invention furthermore preferably have the ability to increase bioavailability of s.c. coadministered FVIII. VWF fragments according to the present invention comprise the at least the 15 N-terminal amino acids of the TIL' domain/subdomain (spanning amino acids 764-778 of SEQ ID NO 22) or the TIL' domain/subdomain (spanning amino acids 764-829 of SEQ ID NO 22) or the TIL'/E' domain/sub-domains (spanning amino acids 764-865 of SEQ ID NO 22) and have a size of less than 1500 amino acids, preferably less than 1400 amino acids, preferably less than 1300 amino acids,

preferably less than 1200 amino acids, preferably less than 1100 amino acids, preferably less than 1000 amino acids, preferably less than 900 amino acids, preferably less than 800 amino acids, preferably less than 700 amino acids, preferably less than 600 amino acids, preferably less than 500 amino 5 acids, preferably less than 400 amino acids, preferably less than 300 amino acids, preferably less than 275 amino acids, preferably less than 250 amino acids, preferably less than 225 amino acids preferably less than 200 amino acids, preferably less than 175 amino acids, preferably less than 150 amino 10 acids, preferably less than 125 amino acids, preferably less than 100 amino acids, preferably less than 95 amino acids, preferably less than 90 amino acids, preferably less than 85 amino acids, or preferably less than 80 amino acids, or preferably less than 75 amino acids, or preferably less than 70 15 amino acids, or preferably less than 65 amino acids, or preferably less than 60 amino acids, or preferably less than 55 amino acids, or preferably less than 50 amino acids, or preferably less than 45 amino acids, or preferably less than 40 amino acids, or preferably less than 35 amino acids, or pref- 20 erably less than 30 amino acids, or preferably less than 25 amino acids, or preferably less than 20 amino acids, or preferably less than 15 amino acids. VWF fragments according to the invention preferably comprise the TIL'/E'/D3 domains (where D3 is divided into subdomains VWD3-C8-3-TIL-3- 25 E3) spanning amino acids 764-1250 or amino acids 764-1261 or amino acids 764-1268 of SEQ ID NO 22.VWF fragments according to the invention preferably comprise at least the 15 N-terminal amino acids of TIL', TIL' or TIL'/E' domains (amino acids 764-778, 764-828 or amino acids 764-865 of SEQ ID NO 22). VWF fragments according to the invention may comprise amino acids 764-1242 (SEQ ID NO 57) or amino acids 764-1482 (SEQ ID NO 58). VWF fragments according to the invention may furthermore contain fewer potentially antigenic regions. The molecular weight of VWF 35 fragment dimers according to the present invention maynaturally—be about twice as high as for the monomeric fragments (Dimers according to the present invention may thus comprise up to about 2400 amino acids if the monomer size is 1200 amino acids).

Preferably, the VWF fragments according to the present invention comprise at least amino acids 764-828 (SEQ ID NO 4), or at least amino acids 764-865 (SEQ ID NO 5), or at least amino acids 764-1035 (SEQ ID NO 6), or at least amino acids 764-1041 (SEQ ID NO 7), or at least amino acids 764-1045 45 (SEQ ID NO 8), or at least amino acids 764-1128 (SEQ ID NO 9), or at least amino acids 764-1198 (SEQ ID no 10), or at least amino acids 764-1250 (SEQ ID NO 11), or at least amino acids 764-1261 (SEQ ID NO 14), or at least amino acids 764-1268 (SEQ ID NO 22), or at least amino acids 764-1242 (SEQ ID NO 57) or at least amino acid 764-1482 (SEQ ID NO 58).

VWF fragments comprising amino acids 764-1242 (SEQ ID NO 57) or amino acid 764-1482 (SEQ ID NO 58) may advantageously have a lower immunogenicity.

In an embodiment, the C1099 and/or the C1142 cysteines may be mutated in the VWF fragments according to the present invention. These cysteine residues are believed to be responsible for the oligomerization/dimerization of the VWF protein. VWF fragments with both cysteines intact may form dimers and homo-oligomers. Modifying both of these cysteines may lead to a product composed of monomer VWF fragments, whereas deletion of one or the other may lead to dimer VWF fragments or potentially to oligomer VWF fragments. Both of the above scenarios may lead to a simpler forduct purification procedure as compared to the full-length protein.

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In another embodiment, both of the C1099 and C1142 cysteines are kept intact which may lead to a preferentially dimeric VWF fragment. There may be a safety advantage associated with the native sequences incl. the C1099 and the C1142 cysteines.

Surprisingly, co-formulation of FVIII and VWF fragments according to the invention demonstrate improved bioavailability compared to co-formulation of FVIII with a full length VWF molecule. The co-formulations according to the invention show increased bioavailability of Factor VIII when injected subcutaneously. VWF fragments according to the present invention comprise the D' domain (spanning amino acids 764-865/866 of SEQ ID NO: 22) which is thought to be the primary FVIII binding site where FVIII may dock onto D' by electrostatic dipole-dipole like interactions. VWF fragments according to the invention preferably comprise the D' domain and/or the D3-domain (the D3 domain spans amino acids 865/866-1250/1261/1268 of SEQ ID NO: 15). Based on the findings herein, it is possible that both the D' and the D'D3 domains have the ability to bind to FVIII. VWF fragments according to the invention do not to any significant degree (i.e. preferably less than 5%, more preferably less than 4%, preferably less than 3%, preferably less than 2%, more preferably less than 1%) form multimers (i.e., having more than two units, such as e.g. oligomers) because the cysteines (C1099 and C1142) essential for multimer assembly are not present or have been mutated/substituted. Some VWF fragments according to the present invention do furthermore not form dimers to any significant degree—in particular those wherein the C1099 and/or C1142 cysteines are not present.

In some cases, VWF fragments forming dimers may, however, also be useful in connection with the present invention—the TIL'/E'/D3/A1 dimer has e.g. been shown to have a higher FVIII affinity than the monomer. VWF fragment dimers may furthermore be a relatively homogenous product that can be produced relatively easily.

One advantage of the VWF fragments according to the invention is that it is easier to produce such compounds on an industrial scale as a relatively homogenous product due to the low degree of multimerization and due to the fact that the compounds are smaller compounds with fewer posttranslational modifications compared to full length VWF. This means that a high expression level is easier to obtain and/or purification will be less complex due to a less complex molecule. Also, production of recombinant peptides and proteins in simple organisms such as e.g. yeast is a faster and more inexpensive production method compared to production in mammalian cell lines—some VWF fragments according to the present invention can be produced in yeast.

VWF fragments according to the present invention can be in the form of one single VWF fragment (such as e.g. the entire TIL'/E'/D3/A1 region spanning amino acids 764-1459 in SEQ ID NO 22) or alternatively in the form of multiple groups of sequential amino acids from VWF fused together and thus deleting intermediary fragments (such as e.g. a "fusion" of the TIL' and the TIL'/E' domain spanning amino acids 764-828+764-865 in SEQ ID NO 22). Another example could be amino acids 764-828+1127-1197 in SEQ ID NO 22. VWF fragments according to the invention may alternatively be in the form of the repetitive elements. Homologous or heterologous "spacer" sequences may be introduced between the fused VWF fragments/elements (such as e.g. a multiple fusion of TIL'/E' domains such as e.g. TIL'/E'TIL'/E'TIL'/E'). VWF fragments according to the invention may also comprise one or more amino acid alternations (e.g. substitutions, deletions, additions) in the VWF derived sequence(s).

Bioavailability of FVIII in connection with extravascular co-administration of FVIII and VWF fragments according to the invention may be further improved by conjugating FVIII with at least one half-life extending moiety. It thus follows, that extra-vascular co-administration of VWF fragments 5 comprising the TIL' and/or the TIL'/E' domains with a FVIII molecule conjugated with at least one half-life extending

moiety is associated with a relatively high FVIII bioavailability.

Examples of VWF fragments according to the present invention (using the domain annotation from Zhou et al.) are shown below in SEQ ID NOs 4-21 and 57-58. TIL'/E'/VWD3 I, TIL'/E'/VWD3 II and TIL'/E'/VWD3 III denote three versions (different lengths) of TIL'/E'/VWD3.

SEQ ID NO 4: amino acids 764-828 (TIL'): SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV ALERCP SEQ ID NO 5: amino acids 764-865 (TIL'/E'): ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$ ALERCPCFHOG KEYAPGETVK IGCNTCVCODRKWNCTDHVCDA SEQ ID NO 6: amino acids 764-1035 (TIL'/E'/VWD3 I): ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$ ALERCPCFHOGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCODRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK YLFPGECOYVLVODYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKKRVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKOTYOEKVCGLCGNFDGIO NNDLTSSNLO VEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSOCADTR SEQ ID NO 7: amino acids 764-1041 (TIL'/E'/VWD3 II): ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$ $\verb|ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK|$ YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ NNDLTSSNLO VEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSOCADTRKVPLDS SEQ ID NO 8: amino acids 764-1045 (TIL'/E'/VWD3 III): ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$ ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ NNDLTSSNLQ VEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPAT SEQ ID NO 9: amino acids 764-1128 (TIL'/E'/VWD3/C8-3) - Cysteine 1099 is marked with bold. This cysteine can be substituted to another amino acid. e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV ALERCPCFHOGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCODRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKKRVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNVK RPMKDETHFEVVESGRYTT LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSTSVVLKOTYOEKVCGLCGNFDGTO NNDLTSSNLOVEEDPVDFGNSWKVSSOCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKOTMVDSSCRILT SDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCACFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTATL CPO SEQ ID NO 10: amino acids 764-1198 (TIL'/E'/VWD3/C8-3/TIL-3) -Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV ALERCPCFHOGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCODRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV

KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ

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NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL

 ${\tt TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA \textbf{C}FCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA}$

 $\verb|TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYE| \textbf{C} = \texttt{WRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL}|$

DELLOTCVDPEDCPV

SEQ ID NO 11: amino acids 764-1250 (TIL'/E'/D3 I) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQMYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV

ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK

YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV

KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ

NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL

TSDVFODCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA**C**FCDTIAAYAHVCAOHGKVVTWRTA

 ${\tt TLCPOSCEERNLRENGYE} \textbf{\textit{C}} {\tt EWRYNSCAPACOVTCOHPEPLACPVOCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL}$

DELLOTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCO ICHCDVVNLTCEACOEPGGL

VVPPTDA

SEQ ID NO 12: amino acids 864-1250 (D3 I)- Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: ATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLKYLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK

RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNVKRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYIILLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQT

YQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQNNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGNSWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCH

 ${\tt NNIMKQTMVDSSCRILTSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA\textbf{\textit{C}}FCDTIAAYAHV}$

 ${\tt CAQHGKVVTWRTATLCPQSCEERNLRENGYE} \textbf{C} {\tt EWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQC}$

 $\tt VEGCHAHCPPGKILDELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQICHCDVV$

NLTCEACQEPGGL WPPTDA

SEQ ID NO 13: amino acids 864-1268 (D3 II) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: ATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLKYLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK

 ${\tt RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNVKRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYIILLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQT}$

YQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQNNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGNSWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCH

 ${\tt NNIMKQTMVDSSCRILTSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA\textbf{\textit{C}}FCDTIAAYAHV}$

CAOHGKVVTWRTATLCPOSCEERNLRENGYE**C**EWRYNSCAPACOVTCOHPEPLACPVOC

 $\tt VEGCHAHCPPGKILDELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQICHCDVV$

NLTCEACOEPGGL VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHD

SEQ ID NO 14: amino acids 764-1261(TIL'/E'/D3 II) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCONYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV

ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK

YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKKRVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV

KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ

 ${\tt NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN} \ \ {\tt SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL}$

 ${\tt TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA} {\color{red} {\bf C}} {\tt FCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA}$

TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYECEWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL

-continued DELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQ ICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGL

VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVED

SEQ ID NO 15: amino acids 764-1264 (TIL'/E'/D3 III) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV

 $\verb|ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK|$

YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV

KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ

NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL

TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCACFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA
TLCPOSCEERNLRENGYECEWRYNSCAPACOVTCOHPEPLACPVOCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL

DELLOTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCO ICHCDVVNLTCEACOEPGGL

VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEP

SEQ ID NO 16: amino acids 764-1268 (TIL'/E'/D3 IV) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV

ALERCPCFHOGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCODRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK

YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV

 ${\tt KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII~LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ}$

 ${\tt NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN} \ \ {\tt SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL}$

 ${\tt TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA} {\tt CFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA}$

TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYE**C**EWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL

 ${\tt DELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQ} \ \ {\tt ICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGL}$

VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHD

SEQ ID NO 17: amino acids 764-1459 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1 I) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$

 $\verb|ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK|$

YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV

KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ

NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL

 ${\tt TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA} \textbf{\textit{C}} {\tt FCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA}$

 $\texttt{TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYE} \textbf{\textit{C}} \texttt{EWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL}$

DELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQ ICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGL
VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHDFYCS RLLDLVFLLD GSSRLSEAEF EVLKAFVVDM

MERLRISQKWVRVAVVEYHDGSHAYIGLKDRKRPSELRRI ASQVKYAGSQVASTSEVLKY

TLFQIFSKIDRPEASRITLLLMASQEPQRMSRNFVRYVQGLKKKKVIVIPVGIGPHANLK

QIRLIEKQAPENKAFVLSSVDELEQQRDEI VSYLCD

SEQ ID NO 18: amino acids 764-1463 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1 II) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV

 $\verb|ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK|$

YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV

-continued

KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ

NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL

TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCACFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA

TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYECEWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL

DELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQ ICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGL

VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHDFYCS RLLDLVFLLD GSSRLSEAEF EVLKAFVVDM

MERLRISQKWVRVAVVEYHDGSHAYIGLKDRKRPSELRRI ASQVKYAGSQVASTSEVLKY

TLFQIFSKIDRPEASRITLLLMASQEPQRMSRNFVRYVQGLKKKKVIVIPVGIGPHANLK

19

QIRLIEKQAPENKAFVLSSVDELEQQRDEI VSYLCDLAPE

SEQ ID NO 19: amino acids 764-1464 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$

ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK
YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV
KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ
NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL
TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCAGFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA
TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYEGEWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL
DELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQ ICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGL
VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHDFYCS RLLDLVFLLD GSSRLSEAEF EVLKAFVVDM
MERLRISQKWVRVAVVEYHDGSHAYIGLKDRKRPSELRRI ASQVKYAGSQVASTSEVLKY
TLFQIFSKIDRPEASRITLLLMASQEPQRMSRNFVRYVQGLKKKKVIVIPVGIGPHANLK
QIRLIEKQAPENKAFVLSSVDELEQQRDEI VSYLCDLAPEA

SEQ ID NO 20: amino acids 764-1683 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1/A2) - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV

ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK
YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV
KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ
NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL
TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCACFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA
TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYECEWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL
DELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQ ICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGL
VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHDFYCS RLLDLVFLLD GSSRLSEAEF EVLKAFVVDM
MERLRISQKWVRVAVVEYHDGSHAYIGLKDRKRPSELRRI ASQVKYAGSQVASTSEVLKY
TLFQIFSKIDRPEASRITLLLMASQEPQRMSRNFVRYVQGLKKKKVIVIPVGIGPHANLK
QIRLIEKQAPENKAFVLSSVDELEQQRDEIVSYLCDLAPEAPPPTLPPDMAQVTVGPGLLGV
STLGPKRNSMVLDVAFVLEGSDKIGEADFNRSKEFMEEVIQRMDVGQDSIHVTVLQYSYMV
TVEYPFSEAQSKGDILQRVREIRYQGGNRTNTGLALRYLSDHSFLVSQGDREQAPNLVYMV
TGNPASDEIKRLPGDIQVVPIGVGPNANVQELERIGWPNAPILIQDFETLPREAPDLVLQRCC

-continued
SEQ ID NO 21: amino acids 764-1873 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1/A2/A3) - Cysteines
1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines
can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser:

 ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$ ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKK RVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNV KRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYII LLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQ NNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGN SWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRIL ${\tt TSDVFQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCA\textbf{\textit{C}}FCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTA}$ $\verb|TLCPQSCEERNLRENGYE| \textbf{C} = \texttt{WRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKIL}|$ DELLOTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCO ICHCDVVNLTCEACOEPGGL VVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHDFYCS RLLDLVFLLD GSSRLSEAEF EVLKAFVVDM MERLRISOKWVRVAVVEYHDGSHAYIGLKDRKRPSELRRI ASOVKYAGSOVASTSEVLKY TLFOIFSKIDRPEASRITLLLMASOEPORMSRNFVRYVOGLKKKKVIVIPVGIGPHANLKOIRLI EKOAPENKAFVLSSVDELEOORDEIVSYLCDLAPEAPPPTLPPDMAOVTVGPGLLGVSTLG PKRNSMVLDVAFVLEGSDKIGEADFNRSKEFMEEVIORMDVGODSIHVTVLOYSYMVTVEY PFSEAQSKGDILQRVREIRYQGGNRTNTGLALRYLSDHSFLVSQGDREQAPNLVYMVTGNP ASDEIKRLPGDIQVVPIGVGPNANVQELERIGWPNAPILIQDFETLPREAPDLVLQRCCSGEG LOIPTLSPAPDCSOPLDVILLLDGSSSFPASYFDEMKSFAKAFISKANIGPRLTOVSVL QYGSITTIDVPWNVVPEKAHLLSLVDVMQREGGPSQIGDALGFAVRYLTSEMHGARPGAS KAVVILVTDVSVDSVDAAADAARSNRVTVFPIGIGDRYDAAQLRILAGPAGDSNVVKLQRIED LPTMVTLGNSFLHKLCS

SEQ ID NO 22: wild-type human VWF according to the UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot database (entry P04275) - cysteine residues at positions 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold: MIPARFAGVLLALALILPGTLCAEGTRGRSSTARCSLFGSDFVNTFDGSMYSFAGYCSYLLA GGCQKRSFSIIGDFQNGKRVSLSVYLGEFFDIHLFVNGTVTQGDQRVSMPYASKGLYLETEA ${\tt GYYKLSGEAYGFVARIDGSGNFQVLLSDRYFNKTCGLCGNFNIFAEDDFMTQEGTLTSDPY}$ ${\tt DFANSWALSSGEQWCERASPPSSSCNISSGEMQKGLWEQCQLLKSTSVFARCHPLVDPE}$ PFVALCEKTLCECAGGLECACPALLEYARTCAQEGMVLYGWTDHSACSPVCPAGMEYRQC VSPCARTCQSLHINEMCQERCVDGCSCPEGQLLDEGLCVESTECPCVHSGKRYPPGTSLS RDCNTCICRNSQWICSNEECPGECLVTGQSHFKSFDNRYFTFSGICQYLLARDCQDHSFSI VIETVQCADDRDAVCTRSVTVRLPGLHNSLVKLKHGAGVAMDGQDVQLPLLKGDLRIQHTV TASVRLSYGEDLOMDWDGRGRLLVKLSPVYAGKTCGLCGNYNGNOGDDFLTPSGLAEPR VEDFGNAWKLHGDCODLOKOHSDPCALNPRMTRFSEEACAVLTSPTFEACHRAVSPLPYL RNCRYDVCSCSDGRECLCGALASYAAACAGRGVRVAWREPGRCELNCPKGOVYLOCGTP CNLTCRSLSYPDEECNEACLEGCFCPPGLYMDERGDCVPKAOCPCYYDGEIFOPEDIFSDH HTMCYCEDGFMHCTMSGVPGSLLPDAVLSSPLSHRSKRSLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEG LECTKTCONYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCVALERCPCFHOGKEYAPGETVKI GCNTCVCODRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLKYLFPGECOYVLVODYCGSNPGT FRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKKRVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNVKRPMKDETHFEVVESGRYIILLLG ${\tt KALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQNNDLTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGNSWKVS}$ SOCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKOTMVDSSCRILTSDVFODCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCS $\texttt{CESIGDCA} \textbf{\textit{C}} \texttt{FCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTATLCPQSCEERNLRENGYE} \textbf{\textit{C}} \texttt{EWRYNSCA}$

-continued PACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKILDELLQTCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGK KVTLNPSDPEHCQICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGLVVPPTDAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHDFYC SRLLDLVFLLDGSSRLSEAEFEVLKAFVVDMMERLRISQKWVRVAVVEYHDGSHAYIGLKDR KRPSELRRIASQVKYAGSQVASTSEVLKYTLFQIFSKIDRPEASRITLLLMASQEPQRMSRNF VRYVQGLKKKKVIVIPVGIGPHANLKQIRLIEKQAPENKAFVLSSVDELEQQRDEIVSYLCDLA PEAPPPTLPPDMAQVTVGPGLLGVSTLGPKRNSMVLDVAFVLEGSDKIGEADFNRSKEFME EVIQRMDVGQDSIHVTVLQYSYMVTVEYPFSEAQSKGDILQRVREIRYQGGNRTNTGLALR YLSDHSFLVSQGDREQAPNLVYMVTGNPASDEIKRLPGDIQVVPIGVGPNANVQELERIGW PNAPILIQDFETLPREAPDLVLQRCCSGEGLQIPTLSPAPDCSQPLDVILLLDGSSSFPASYFD EMKSFAKAFISKANIGPRLTQVSVLQYGSITTIDVPWNVVPEKAHLLSLVDVMQREGGPSQIG DALGFAVRYLTSEMHGARPGASKAVVILVTDVSVDSVDAAADAARSNRVTVFPIGIGDRYDA AQLRILAGPAGDSNVVKLQRIEDLPTMVTLGNSFLHKLCSGFVRICMDEDGNEKRPGDVWT LPDOCHTVTCOPDGOTLLKSHRVNCDRGLRPSCPNSOSPVKVEETCGCRWTCPCVCTGS STRHIVTFDGQNFKLTGSCSYVLFQNKEQDLEVILHNGACSPGARQGCMKSIEVKHSALSVE $\verb|LHSDMEVTVNGRLVSVPYVGGNMEVNVYGAIMHEVRFNHLGHIFTFTPQNNEFQLQLSPKT|$ ${\tt FASKTYGLCGICDENGANDFMLRDGTVTTDWKTLVQEWTVQRPGQTCQPILEEQCLVPDS}$ $\verb|SHCQVLLLPLFAECHKVLAPATFYAICQQDSCHQEQVCEVIASYAHLCRTNGVCVDWRTPD|$ FCAMSCPPSLVYNHCEHGCPRHCDGNVSSCGDHPSEGCFCPPDKVMLEGSCVPEEACTO CIGEDGVQHQFLEAWVPDHQPCQICTCLSGRKVNCTTQPCPTAKAPTCGLCEVARLRQNA ${\tt DQCCPEYECVCDPVSCDLPPVPHCERGLQPTLTNPGECRPNFTCACRKEECKRVSPPSCP}$ PHRLPTLRKTQCCDEYECACNCVNSTVSCPLGYLASTATNDCGCTTTTCLPDKVCVHRSTI YPVGQFWEEGCDVCTCTDMEDAVMGLRVAQCSQKPCEDSCRSGFTYVLHEGECCGRCL PSACEVVTGSPRGDSQSSWKSVGSQWASPENPCLINECVRVKEEVFIQQRNVSCPQLEVP VCPSGFQLSCKTSACCPSCRCERMEACMLNGTVIGPGKTVMIDVCTTCRCMVQVGVISGF KLECRKTTCNPCPLGYKEENNTGECCGRCLPTACTIQLRGGQIMTLKRDETLQDGCDTHFC KVNERGEYFWEKRVTGCPPFDEHKCLAEGGKIMKIPGTCCDTCEEPECNDITARLQYVKVG SCKSEVEVDIHYCQGKCASKAMYSIDINDVQDQCSCCSPTRTEPMQVALHCTNGSVVYHEV LNAMECKCSPRKCSK

SEQ ID NO 57: amino acids 764-1242 - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser: SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKKRVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNVK RPMKDETHFEVVESGRYIILLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQNND LTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGNSWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRILTSDV FQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCACFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTATLCPQ SCEERNLRENGYECEWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKILDELLQ TCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQ ICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGG SEQ ID NO 58: amino acids 764-1482 - Cysteines 1099 and 1142 are marked with bold. One or both of these cysteines can be substituted to another amino acid, e.g. Ser:

 ${\tt SLSCRPPMVKLVCPADNLRAEGLECTKTCQNYDLECMSMGCVSGCLCPPGMVRHENRCV}$ ${\tt ALERCPCFHQGKEYAPGETVKIGCNTCVCQDRKWNCTDHVCDATCSTIGMAHYLTFDGLK}$

-continued YLFPGECQYVLVQDYCGSNPGTFRILVGNKGCSHPSVKCKKRVTILVEGGEIELFDGEVNVK RPMKDETHFEVVESGRYIILLLGKALSVVWDRHLSISVVLKQTYQEKVCGLCGNFDGIQNND LTSSNLQVEEDPVDFGNSWKVSSQCADTRKVPLDSSPATCHNNIMKQTMVDSSCRILTSDV FQDCNKLVDPEPYLDVCIYDTCSCESIGDCACFCDTIAAYAHVCAQHGKVVTWRTATLCPQ ${\tt SCEERNLRENGYE} \textbf{\textit{C}} {\tt EWRYNSCAPACQVTCQHPEPLACPVQCVEGCHAHCPPGKILDELLQ}$ ${\tt TCVDPEDCPVCEVAGRRFASGKKVTLNPSDPEHCQICHCDVVNLTCEACQEPGGLVVPPT}$ ${\tt DAPVSPTTLYVEDISEPPLHDFYCSRLLDLVFLLDGSSRLSEAEFEVLKAFVVDMMERLRISQ}$ KWVRVAVVEYHDGSHAYIGLKDRKRPSELRRIASQVKYAGSQVASTSEVLKYTLFQIFSKID

RPEASRITLLLMASQEPQRMSRNFVRYVQGLKKKKVIVIPVGIGPHANLKQIRLIEKQAPENK

FVIII Molecules/Variants/Derivatives/Analogues: The term "FVIII" as used herein, is intended to designate any 20 extending moieties (e.g. fatty acids) conjugated to a sulfhy-FVIII molecule having FVIII activity, incl. wt FVIII, B domain deleted/truncated FVIII molecules, variants of FVIII exhibiting substantially the same or improved biological activity relative to wt FVIII and FVIII-related polypeptides, in which one or more of the amino acids of the parent peptide 25 have been chemically modified, e.g. by protein:protein fusion, alkylation, PEGylation, HESylation, PASylation, PSAylation, acylation, ester formation or amide formation or the like (conjugated to a half-life extending moiety).

AFVLSSVDELEQQRDEIVSYLCDLAPEAPPPTLPPDMAQVTVGPGL

Half-Life Extending Moieties/Protractive Groups: The 30 term "half-life extending moieties" is herein understood to refer to one or more chemical groups, e.g. a hydrophilic polymer, such as e.g. PEG and/or a polysaccharide covalently attached to FVIII via e.g. -SH, -OH, -COOH, —CONH2, —NH2, or one or more N- and/or O-glycan struc- 35 tures that can increase in vivo circulatory half-life when conjugated to these proteins. Examples of protractive groups/ half-life extending moieties suitable for being conjugated to FVIII in connection with the present invention include: Biocompatible fatty acids and derivatives thereof, Hydroxy Alkyl 40 Starch (HAS) e.g. Hydroxy Ethyl Starch (HES), Poly Ethylene Glycol (PEG), Poly (Glyx-Sery)n (HAP), Hyaluronic acid (HA), Heparosan polymers (HEP), Phosphorylcholinebased polymers (PC polymer), Fleximers, Dextran, Polysialic acids (PSA), an Fc domain, an Fc receptor, Transferrin, 45 Albumin, Elastin like peptides, XTEN polymers, Albumin binding peptides, a CTP peptide, and any combination thereof. In general, conjugation of FVIII with one or more half-life extending moieties (such as e.g. hydrophilic polymers) generally have a better bioavailability in connection 50 with s.c./intradermal co-administration with VWF fragments according to the invention as compared with FVIII with no half-life extending moieties.

PEGylated FVIII molecules in connection with the present invention may have one or more polyethylene glycol (PEG) 55 molecules attached to any part of the FVIII protein including any amino acid residue or carbohydrate moiety. Chemical and/or enzymatic methods can be employed for conjugating PEG or other polymeric groups (half-life extending moieties) to a glycan on FVIII. An example of an enzymatic conjuga- 60 tion process is described e.g. in WO03031464. The glycan may be naturally occurring or it may be inserted via e.g. insertion of an N-linked and/or O-linked glycan using methods well known in the art. "Cysteine-PEGylated FVIII" according to the present invention have one or more PEG 65 molecules conjugated to a sulfhydryl group of a cysteine present in FVIII. "Cysteine-acylated FVIII" according to the

present invention have one or more hydrophobic half-life dryl group of a cysteine in FVIII—this cysteine residue may be introduced by genetic engineering or a part of the native amino acid sequence. It is furthermore possible to link halflife extending moieties to other amino acid residues.

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Fusion Proteins: Fusion proteins according to the present invention are proteins created through the in-frame joining of two or more DNA sequences which originally encoded FVIII and the fusion partner. Translation of the fusion protein DNA sequence will result in a single protein sequence which may have functional properties derived from each of the original proteins or peptides. DNA sequences encoding fusion proteins may be created artificially by standard molecular biology methods such as overlapping PCR or DNA ligation and the assembly is performed excluding the stop codon in the first 5'-end DNA sequence while retaining the stop codon in the 3' end DNA sequence. The resulting fusion protein DNA sequence may be inserted into an appropriate expression vector that supports the heterologous fusion protein expression in a standard host organism.

Fusion proteins may contain a linker or spacer peptide sequence that separates the protein or peptide parts which define the fusion protein. The linker or spacer peptide sequence may facilitate the correct folding of the individual protein or peptide parts and may make it more likely for the individual protein or peptide parts to retain their individual functional properties. Linker or spacer peptide sequences may be inserted into fusion protein DNA sequences during the in frame assembly of the individual DNA fragments that make up the complete fusion protein DNA sequence i.e. during overlapping PCR or DNA ligation. Examples of fusion proteins comprising FVIII and a fusion partner are shown in WO2011101284.

Fc Fusion Protein: The term "Fc fusion protein" is herein meant to encompass FVIII fused to an Fc domain that can be derived from any antibody isotype. An IgG Fc domain will often be preferred due to the relatively long circulatory halflife of IgG antibodies. The Fc domain may furthermore be modified in order to modulate certain effector functions such as e.g. complement binding and/or binding to certain Fc receptors. Fusion of FVIII with an Fc domain, which has the capacity to bind to FcRn receptors, will generally result in a prolonged in vivo circulatory half-life. Mutations in positions 234, 235 and 237 in an IgG Fc domain will generally result in reduced binding to the FcyRI receptor and possibly also the FcyRIIa and the FcyRIII receptors. These mutations do not alter binding to the FcRn receptor, which promotes a long circulatory in vivo half-life by an endocytic recycling pathway. Preferably, a modified IgG Fc domain of a fusion protein according to the invention comprises one or more of the following mutations that will result in decreased affinity to certain Fc receptors (L234A, L235E, and G237A) and in reduced C1q-mediated complement fixation (A330S and P331S), respectively. Alternatively, the Fc domain may be an IgG4 Fc domain, preferably comprising the S241P/S228P mutation

Bioavailability (of FVIII): The term "Bioavailability" describes the percentage of compound absorbed to the blood after extravascular is calculated as the Area under the concentration time curves after extravascular dosing of the compound. This is calculated from the Area under the concentration curves of FVIII after s.c. administration divided by the dose, relatively to the area under the concentrations curve divided by the dose of the same FVIII compound, dosed i.v. According to the present invention, the bioavailability of FVIII molecules (in connection with subcutaneous/intradermal co-administration of FVIII and VWF fragments accord- 20 ing to the invention) is at least 3%, preferably at least 5%, preferably at least 6%, preferably at least 7%, preferably at least 8%, preferably at least 9%, preferably at least 10%, preferably at least 11%, preferably at least 12%, preferably at least 13%, preferably at least 14%, preferably at least 15%, 25 preferably at least 16%, preferably at least 17%, preferably at least 18%, preferably at least 19%, preferably at least 20%, preferably at least 21%, preferably at least 22%, preferably at least 23%, preferably at least 24%, preferably at least 25%, preferably at least 26%, preferably at least 27%, preferably at least 28%, preferably at least 29%, preferably at least 30%, preferably at least 31%, preferably at least 32%, preferably at least 33%, preferably at least 34%, preferably at least 35%, preferably at least 36%, preferably at least 37%, preferably at least 38%, preferably at least 39%, preferably at least 40%, preferably at least 41%, preferably at least 42%, preferably at least 43%, preferably at least 44%, preferably at least 45%. preferably at least 46%, preferably at least 47%, preferably at least 48%, preferably at least 49%, preferably at least 50%, 40 preferably at least 55%, preferably at least 60%, preferably at least 65%, preferably at least 70%, and most preferably at least 75%. Bioavailability can be measured as described herein. Preferably, the FVIII bioavailability (FVIII antigen and/or activity) of formulations according to the invention 45 will be high enough to exert prophylactic effects under conditions with normal activity when such formulations are administered extravascularly (e.g. subcutaneously or intradermally) e.g. once or twice a day or once, twice or three times a week. Preferably, FVIII dosages are comparable with 50 those used in connection with I.V. administration of FVIII, preferably twice as high, and more preferably three times as high, more preferably four times as high, more preferably about 10 times as high, more preferably about 15 times as high, more preferably about 20 times as high, and most pref- 55 erably about 25 times as high. Safety and cost considerations may be considered in connection with dosage determinations.

Saturation of FVIII with VWF Fragments according to the invention: saturation of FVIII with VWF fragment/the relative amount of FVIII bound to or in complex with VWF/the 60 amount of FVIII bound to VWF divided by the total amount of FVIII. This calculation is based on the KD value of the binding between FVIII and the protein. For FVIII binding to VWF fragments, the measured KI values are used as KD.

The following (quadratic) equations can be used to calculate the concentration of bound FVIII (A) to another protein (B) from the total concentrations [A], [B],.

$$K_D = \frac{[A] \times [B]}{[AB]}$$

$$[A] = [A]_t - [AB]$$

$$[B] = [B]_t - [AB]$$

$$[AB]^2 - (K_D + [A]_t + [B]_t) \times [AB] + [A]_t \times [B]_t = 0$$

$$\alpha \times [AB]^2 + \beta \times [AB] + \delta = 0$$

$$\alpha = 1, \beta = -(K_D + [A]_t + [B]_t), \delta = [A]_t \times [B]_t$$

$$[AB] = \frac{-\beta \pm \sqrt{\beta^2 - 4 \times \alpha \times \delta}}{2 \times \alpha}$$

Pharmaceutical Compositions: The present invention provides compositions comprising VWF fragments and preferably also FVIII.

Accordingly, one object of the invention is to provide a pharmaceutical composition comprising a FVIII molecule present in a concentration from 40 IU/ml to 25,000 IU/ml, and wherein said composition has a pH from 2.0 to 10.0. In a preferred embodiment, the FVIII molecules are co-administered together with VWF fragments. In another embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition comprises (i) a FVIII molecule and (ii) a VWF fragment; in one embodiment thereof, the pharmaceutical composition is an aqueous liquid, readyto use composition, in another embodiment, the composition is a freeze-dried composition that should be dissolved before use. Formulations of FVIII, particularly liquid formulations, are stabilised against degradation by addition of VWF fragments. Pharmaceutical compositions according to the invention may thus comprise FVIII in a concentration of from 40 IU/ml to 25,000 IU/ml, such as e.g. from 50-25,000 IU/ml, 100-25,000 IU/ml, 250-25,000 IU/ml, 500-25,000 IU/ml, 1000-25,000 IU/ml, 2000-25,000 IU/ml, 3000-25,000 IU/ml, 4000-25,000 IU/ml, 5000-25,000 IU/ml, 6000-25,000, 7000-25,000, 8000-25,000, 9000-25,000, 10,000-25,000 IU/ml, 50-20,000 IU/ml, 100-20,000 IU/ml, 250-20,000 IU/ml, 500-20,000 IU/ml, 1000-20,000 IU/ml, 2000-20,000 IU/ml, 3000-20.000 IU/ml, 4000-20,000 IU/ml, 5000-20.000 IU/ml, 6000-20,000 IU/ml, 7000-20,000 IU/ml, 8000-20,000 IU/ml, 9000-20,000 IU/ml, 10,000-20,000 IU/ml, 50-15,000 IU/ml, 100-15,000 IU/ml, 250-15,000 IU/ml, 500-15,000 IU/ml, 1000-15,000 IU/ml, 2000-15,000 IU/ml, 3000-15,000 IU/ml, 4000-15,000 IU/ml, 5000-15,000 IU/ml, 6000-15,000 IU/ml, 7000-15,000 IU/ml, 8000-15,000 IU/ml, 9000-15,000 IU/ml, 10,000-15,000 IU/ml, 50-10,000 IU/ml, 100-10,000 IU/ml, 250-10,000 IU/ml, 500-10,000 IU/ml, 1000-10,000 IU/ml, $2000\text{-}10,\!000\,\text{IU/ml}, 3000\text{-}10,\!000\,\text{IU/ml}, 4000\text{-}10,\!000\,\text{IU/ml},$ 5000-10,000 IU/ml, 50-5000 IU/ml, 100-5000 IU/ml, 250-5000 IU/ml, 500-5000 IU/ml, and 1000-5000 IU/ml. Compositions according to the invention may further comprise one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients such as e.g. a buffer system, a preservative, a tonicity agent, a chelating agent, a stabilizer, or a surfactant, as well as various combinations thereof. The use of preservatives, isotonic agents, chelating agents, stabilizers and surfactants in pharmaceutical compositions is well-known to the skilled person. Reference may be made to Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, 19th edition, 1995.

In one embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition is an aqueous composition. Such a composition is typically a solution or a suspension, but may also include colloids, dispersions, emulsions, and multi-phase materials. The term "aqueous composition" is defined as a composition comprising at least 50% w/w water. Likewise, the term "aqueous solution"

is defined as a solution comprising at least 50% w/w water, and the term "aqueous suspension" is defined as a suspension comprising at least 50% w/w water. In one embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition is an aqueous solution; in another embodiment it is a liquid, ready-to-use composition. 5

In another embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition is a freeze-dried composition, to which the physician or the patient adds solvents and/or diluents prior to use.

In one embodiment, the pharmaceutical compositions according to the present invention are suitable for extravascular administration (e.g. s.c. or intradermal administration) in prophylactic/therapeutic treatment of blood clotting diseases. In another embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for intravenous administration.

In one embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition 15 according to the invention is a pharmaceutical composition for intravenous administration; in further embodiments thereof, the pharmaceutical composition is (i) a freeze-dried composition or (ii) a liquid composition.

"Ratio of FVIII: VWF": According to the present inven- 20 tion, preferred ratios of FVIII and VWF/VWF fragment include FVIII/VWF ratios (molar ratios) from 0.5:1 to 1:50, such as e.g. 1:1 to 1:50, such as e.g. 1:1 to 1:25, such as e.g. 1:1 to 1:20, or 1:1 to 1:15, or 1:1 to 1:10, or 1:1 to 1:7.5, or 1:7 to 1:8, or 1:6 to 1:8, or 1:6 to 1:9, or 1:5 to 1:10. Preferred 25 ratios thus include: 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 1:4, 1:5.1:5.5; 1:6; 1:6.5, 1:7; 1:7.1; 1:7.2; 1:7.3; 1:7.4; 1:7.5; 1:7.6; 1:7.7; 1:7.8; 1:7.9, 1:8, 1:9, 1:10, 1:15, 1:20, 1:25, 1:30, 1:35, 1:40, 1:45, and 1:50. Preferred ratios include: 0.5:1; 0.6:1; 0.7:1; 0.8:1; 0.9:1; 1:1; 1.1:1; 1.2:1; 1.3:3; 1.4:1, and 1.5:1. A molar ratio close to 1:1 30 generally has the advantage of minimizing the required amount of active substance. The optimal ratio between FVIII and VWF fragment in a co-formulation mixture may be determined by calculating the amount of bound FVIII:VWF at certain protein concentrations based on the binding affinity to 35 the VWF variant for the FVIII species in question. The binding affinity can be determined e.g. by ELISA, SPR or by ITC.

"Haemophilia": Haemophilia/hemophilia/blood clotting diseases is a group of hereditary genetic disorders that impair the body's ability to control blood clotting or coagulation 40 ("bleeding disorders"), which is used to stop bleeding when a blood vessel is broken. Haemophilia A (clotting factor VIII deficiency) is the most common form of the disorder, present in about 1 in 5,000-10,000 male births. In connection with the present invention, the term "haemophilia" encompasses von 45 Willebrand disease.

List of Embodiments:

- A VWF fragment comprising up to 1500, 1400, 1300, or 1200, wherein said VWF fragment comprises the TIL' domain. Said fragment may comprise different or repetitive VWF sequences joined by peptide bonds.
- 2. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein said fragment comprises the TIL' and the E' domains.
- A VWF fragment consisting of the TIL' or the TIL'/E' domains.
- 4. A VWF fragment (according to the invention), wherein said fragment comprises the amino acid sequence according to any one of SEQ ID NO 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 57 or 58.
- 5. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein 60 said VWF fragment does not comprise cysteine residues at position(-s) 1099 and/or 1142 of SEQ ID NO 22. These cysteine residue(-s) can be deleted by amino acid substitution and/or deletion.
- 6. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein 65 said fragment comprises SEQ ID NO 9, wherein the 1099 Cysteine residue is substituted with another amino

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- acid, such as e.g. Histidine, Alanine, Isoleucine Arginine, Leucine, Asparagine, Lysine, Aspartic acid, Methionine, Phenylalanine, Glutamic acid, Threonine, Glutamine, Tryptophan, Glycine, Valine, Proline, Serine, Taurine, and Tyrosine.
- 7. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein the 1099 cysteine residue is substituted with Serine.
- 8. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein said fragment comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the list consisting of: SEQ ID NO 10, SEQ ID NO 11, SEQ ID NO 12, SEQ ID NO 13, SEQ ID NO 14, SEQ ID NO 15, SEQ ID NO 16, SEQ ID NO 17, SEQ ID NO 18, SEQ ID NO 19, SEQ ID NO 20, SEQ ID NO 21, SEQ ID NO 57 and SEQ ID NO 58 wherein the 1099 and the 1142 cysteine residues are substituted with another amino acid, such as e.g. Histidine, Alanine, Isoleucine Arginine, Leucine, Asparagine, Lysine, Aspartic acid, Methionine, Phenylalanine, Glutamic acid, Threonine, Glutamice, Tryptophan, Glycine, Valine, Proline, Serine, Taurine, and/or Tyrosine.
- 9. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein the 1099 and the 1142 cysteine residues are substituted with serine
- 10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein less than 10%, preferably less than 9%, preferably less than 8%, preferably less than 7%, preferably less than 6%, preferably less than 5%, preferably less than 4%, preferably less than 3%, preferably less than 2%, preferably less than 1% of said VWF fragment are in the form of oligomers and/or multimers.
- 11. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein said VWF fragment is part of a dimer. The percentage of dimer formation may be at least 5%, preferably at least 10%, preferably at least 25%, preferably at least 20%, preferably at least 35%, preferably at least 30%, preferably at least 35%, preferably at least 40%, preferably at least 45%, preferably at least 50%, preferably at least 55%, preferably at least 60%, preferably at least 65%, preferably at least 70%, preferably at least 75%, preferably at least 80%, preferably at least 85%, preferably at least 95%.
- 12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising FVIII and a VWF fragment, wherein FVIII bioavailability is at least 5% following extravascular (e.g. sub-cutaneous/intradermal) administration of said pharmaceutical formulation
- 13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising FVIII and a VWF fragment, wherein FVIII bioavailability is at least 5% following extravascular (e.g. sub-cutaneous/intradermal) administration of said pharmaceutical formulation, wherein the ratio of FVIII and VWF fragment is about 0.5:1-1:50. Preferably said ratio is about 0.5:1, 1:1, or 1:2.
- 14. A VWF fragment, wherein the amino acid sequence of said VWF fragment comprises or consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the list consisting of: SEQ ID NO 4, SEQ ID NO 5, SEQ ID NO 6, SEQ ID NO 7, SEQ ID NO 8, SEQ ID NO 9, SEQ ID NO 10, SEQ ID NO 11 SEQ ID NO 12, SEQ ID NO 13, SEQ ID NO 14, SEQ ID NO 15, SEQ ID NO 16, SEQ ID NO 17, SEQ ID NO 18, SEQ ID NO 19, SEQ ID NO 20, SEQ ID NO 21, SEQ ID NO 57 and SEQ ID NO 58.
- 15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising: (i) a VWF fragment according to the invention; and (ii) FVIII, preferably recombinant FVIII. Alternatively, said composition may comprise two, three, four, five or more different

- VWF fragments according to the invention and/or two, three, four, or five different FVIII molecules.
- 16. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein said FVIII molecule comprises a truncated B domain at a size of 5-700 amino acids, such as e.g. 5-500, 5-400, 5-300, 5-200, 5-100, 5-50, 5-40, 5-30, 5-25, 5-20, 10-700, 10-500, 10-400, 10-300, 10-200, 10-100, 10-50, 10-40, 10-30, 10-20, 20-700, 20-500, 20-400, 20-300, 20-200, 20-100, 20-50, 20-25, 50-700, 50-500, 50-400, 50-300, 50-200, 50-100, 100-700, 100-500, 100-400, 100-300, 100-200, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 45, 50, 75, or 100 amino acids
- 17. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein the amino acid sequence of said truncated B domain is derived from the wt FVIII B domain amino acid sequence.
- 18. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein said FVIII molecule is a B domain truncated FVIII molecule, wherein said B domain comprises an O-glycan linked to the Ser 750 amino acid residue as set forth in SEQ ID NO 1. Preferably, said FVIII molecule comprises one O-linked glycan in the truncated B domain, wherein said O-linked glycan is attached to the Ser 750 residue as set forth in SEQ ID NO 1.
- 19. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein said FVIII molecule comprises a B domain having the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO 2. Alternatively, one or more amino acids in the B domain are deleted from SEQ ID NO 2, such as e.g. the N-terminal Ser residue and/or the C-terminal Arg residue
- 20. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein the amino acid sequence of the FVIII B domain comprises or consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: amino acids 741-857+1637-1648; amino acids 741-914+1637-1648; 40 amino acids 741-954+1637-1648; amino acids 741-965+1637-1648; amino acids 741-965+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1003+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1003+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1020+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1079+1637-1648; amino acids 741- 45 1206+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1261+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1309+1637-1648; amino acids 741-914+1637-1648; amino acids 741-954+1637-1648; amino acids 741-968+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1003+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1018+1637-1648; 50 amino acids 741-1070+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1230+1637-1648; amino acids 741-1301+1637-1648; amino acids 741-965+1637-1648; amino acids 741-965+1637-1648; amino acids 741-965+1637-1648; and amino acids 741-965+1637-1648 as set forth in SEQ ID 55
- 21. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein said FVIII molecule is conjugated with at least one half-life extending moiety. Preferably, said half-life extending moiety is a water soluble polymer. 60 Preferably a PEG and/or a polysaccharide.
- 22. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein at least one water soluble polymer is covalently attached to a glycan present in the B domain, preferably an O-glycan, preferably an O-glycan 65 attached to the Ser750 amino acid residue as set forth in SEQ ID NO 1.

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- 23. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein said water soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of: PEG, PSA, HES, HEP and HSA
- 24. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein said FVIII molecule is produced using an expression vector encoding a FVIII molecule comprising the FVIII B domain is as set forth in SEQ ID NO 2.
- 25. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein the bioavailability of said FVIII molecule is at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10%. Preferably, the bioavailability is measured as the area under the curve of the plasma levels of FVIII after subcutaneous administration using either an antigen assay or a clotting assay.
- 26. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein the ratio between FVIII and VWF is 1:50, 1:34, 1:25, 1:20:1:15, 1:10.1:7.5, preferably 0.5:1, 1:1, or 1:2
- 27. A pharmaceutical formulation according to the invention, wherein the concentration of FVIII is at least about 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 500, 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000, 7000, 8000, 9000, 10,000, 11,000, 12,000, 13,000, 14,000, 15,000, 16,000, 17,000, 18,000, 19,000, 20,000, 20,000, 21,000, 22,000, 23,000, 24,000, 25,000, 26,000, 27,000, 28,000, 29,000, or 30,000 IU/ml.
- 28. A pharmaceutical formulation according to the invention, wherein the amount of FVIII bound to VWF fragment is at least 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, or 95% of the total amount of FVIII in said formulation.
- 29. Use of a compound according to the invention, or a pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, for treatment of haemophilia by extravascular, preferably subcutaneous, administration. The pharmaceutical composition according to the invention can also be administered by intradermal administration. The pharmaceutical composition according to the invention can furthermore be administered by intravenous administration
- 30. A method of treatment of a haemophilia, wherein said method comprises subcutaneous administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to the present invention, or a pharmaceutical composition according to the present invention, to a patient in need thereof.
- 31. A method of increasing bioavailability of FVIII, wherein said method comprises a step of extravascular (e.g. subcutaneous/intradermal) co-administration of FVIII and a VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein the ratio of said FVIII and said VWF fragment is about 1:1-1:50, preferably 0.5:1, 1:1, 1:2, 1:10, 1:20 or 1:34.
- 32. A DNA molecule encoding a VWF fragment according to the invention.
- An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule according to the invention.
- 34. A host cell comprising an expression vector according to the invention.
- 35. A method for making a VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein said method comprises incubation of a host cell in a suitable medium under suitable conditions and subsequently recovering said recombinant VWF fragment.
- 36. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein said composition comprises one or more VWF fragments according to the invention.

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- 37. A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more VWF fragments according to the invention.
- 38. A method of treatment of von willebrand disease, wherein said method comprises extravascular (e.g. subcutaneous) administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to the present invention, to a patient in need thereof.
- 39. AVWF fragment or VWF-like polypeptide comprising the 15 N terminal amino acids of the TIL' sequence 764-778, or more.
- 40. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein said VWF fragment interacts with/binds to residues C1858-Q1874, S2063-D2074 AND V2125-A2146 of the FVIII amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO 1.
- 41. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein said fragment is conjugated with a half-life extending moiety.
- 42. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein 20 said fragment is conjugated with a half-life extending moiety via a N- and/or O-linked glycan.
- 43. A VWF fragment according to the invention, wherein said VWF fragment reduced uptake of FVIII by antigen presenting cells in connection with binding of said VWF 25 fragment to FVIII.
- 44. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is for intravenous administration.
- 45. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, which is a freeze-dried composition.
- 46. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, which is a liquid composition.
- 47. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is for ³⁵ intravenous administration and is a freeze-dried composition.
- 48. A pharmaceutical composition according to the invention, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is for intravenous administration and is a liquid composition.

It is understood that all aspects and embodiments of the invention can be combined and that they are not to be understood in any limiting way.

EXAMPLES

While certain features of the invention have been illustrated and described herein, many modifications, substitutions, changes, and equivalents will now occur to those of ordinary skill in the art. It is, therefore, to be understood that 50 the appended claims are intended to cover all such modifications and changes as fall within the true spirit of the invention.

Example 1

Subcutaneous Administration in FVIII Knockout Mice (1): Two test compounds were prepared:

- a) GlycoPEGylated FVIII, i.e. "N8-GP" (prepared essentially as disclosed in example 1+2 in WO2009108806) 2000 U FVIII/ml determined by chromogenic activity 60 equivalent to 1.2 μ M based on protein content.
- b) GlycoPEGylated FVIII i.e. N8-GP (2000 U FVIII/ml or $1.2~\mu\text{M}$, co-formulated with 0.74 mg/ml VWF fragment TIL'/E'/D3/A1 (equivalent to 9.3 μM) Both test compounds were formulated in 18 mg/ml NaCl, 3 mg/ml saccharose, 1.5 mg/ml L-histidine, 0.1 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.25 mg/ml CaCl₂, pH 7.3

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12 FVIII KO mice, exon 16 knock-out in a mixed background of C57Bl/6 and SV129, bred at Taconic M&B (B6.129S4-F8tm1Kaz/J) with an approximate weight of 22 g were dosed subcutaneously in the flank with 10000 IU/kg FVIII or FVIII/VWF, 6 mice with each test compound.

Blood was sampled at 1, 3, 7, 17, 24, 30, 48, 72 and 96 h post administration. The mice were anaesthetized by Isoflurane/ O_2/N_2O prior to blood sampling via the retroorbital plexus. Three samples were taken from each mouse. Blood (45 μ l) was stabilised with 5 μ l of sodium-citrate (0.13 M) and added 200 μ l FVIII coatest SP buffer (50 mM TRIS-HCl, 1% BSA, Ciprofloxacin 10 mg/L, pH 7.3). After centrifugation at 4000 g for 5 minutes at room temperature, the supernatants were immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at –80° C. prior to analysis.

Samples were analysed with regards to FVIII activity in a chromogenic assay as described by Ovlisen K et al. J. Thromb. Haemost, 2008, 6: 969-975 and by FVIII antigen analysis using two FVIII light chain antibodies (4F45 and 4F11) in a FVIII LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channelling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data were analysed by non-compartmental analysis using WinNonlin Phoenix (Pharsight Corporation) estimating the given pharmacokinetic parameters. The bioavailability was estimated using a previous i.v. pharmacokinetic study of N8-GP in FVIII KO

The circulating profiles of FVIII activity are shown graphically in FIG. 1, the circulating concentrations of FVIII antigen are shown in FIG. 2.

In this experiment, the bioavailability of GlycoPEGylated FVIII alone was calculated to be 27% based on activity and 19% based on antigen. The co-formulation with VWF increased the bioavailability to 40 and 47%, respectively.

Example 2

Subcutaneous Administration in FVIII Knockout Mice (2): Two test compounds were prepared:

- a) GlycoPEGylated FVIII (500 IU FVIII/ml determined by chromogenic activity equivalent to 0.3 μM)
- b) GlycoPEGylated FVIII (500 IU FVIII/ml or 0.3 μM, co-formulated with 0.185 mg/ml VWF fragment TIL'/ E'/D3/A1 (equivalent to 2.3 μM)
 - Based on a measured IC50 of 1.5 nM of the VWF fragment to FVIII and assuming that the measured IC50 equals K_a, 99% of the FVIII should be bound to VWF in this composition.
 - Both test compounds were formulated in 18 mg/ml NaCl, 3 mg/ml saccharose, 1.5 mg/ml L-histidine, 0.1 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.25 mg/ml CaCl2, pH ~7.3

12 FVIII KO mice, exon 16 knock-out in a mixed background of C57BI/6 and SV129, bred at Taconic M&B (B6.129S4-F8tm1Kaz/J) with an approximate weight of 22 g were dosed subcutaneously in the flank with 2500 IU/kg FVIII or FVIII/VWF, 6 mice with each test compound.

Blood was sampled at 1, 3, 7, 17, 24, 30, 48, 72 and 96 h post administration. The mice were anaesthetized by Isoflurane/O₂/N₂O prior to blood sampling via the retroorbital plexus. Three samples were taken from each mouse. 45 μ l of blood was stabilised with 5 μ l of sodium-citrate (0.13 M) and added 200 μ l FVIII coatest SP buffer (50 mM TRIS-HCl, 1% BSA, Ciprofloxacin 10 mg/L, pH 7.3). After centrifugation at 4000 g for 5 minutes at room temperature, the samples were immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at –80° C. prior to analysis.

Samples were analysed with regards to FVIII activity in a chromogenic assay as described by Ovlisen K et al. J. Thromb. Haemost, 2008, 6: 969-975 and by FVIII antigen analysis using two FVIII light chain antibodies (4F45 and 4F11) in a FVIII LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channeling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data were analysed by non-compartmental analysis using WinNonlin Phonix (Pharsight Corporaton) estimating the given pharmacokinetic parameters. The bioavailability was estimated using a previous i.v. pharmacokinetic study of N8-GP in FVIII KO mice.

The circulating profiles of FVIII activity are shown graphically in FIG. 3, the circulating concentrations of FVIII antigen are shown in FIG. 4.

In this experiment, the bioavailability of GlycoPEGylated 15 FVIII alone was calculated to be 29% based on activity and 14% based on antigen. The co-formulation with VWF increased the bioavailability to 36% (antigen measurement).

Example 3

Haemostatic Efficacy of s.c. Administrated Co-Formulations of FVIII Compounds with VWF Compounds:

Study Outline:

Animals: FVIII k/o mice, 8-18 weeks old, male and females

Tail bleeding: n=6-12 per timepoint/group

Thrombo-elastography: n=2-4 per timepoint/group

Administration route: s.c. in the neck or flank (i.v. in the tail vein for control groups)

Dose volumes 1-10 ml/kg

Groups:

Vehicle controls dosed 24 hr prior to injury

i.v. controls dosed 5 min prior to injury

FVIII compounds co-formulated with VWF compounds dosed s.c. 5 min, 1, 3, 5, 12, 24, 48, 72, 96, 120, 144 or 35 168 hr prior to injury.

Procedures:

Compounds of interest are prepared in buffer (10 mM L-Histidine, 8.8~mM Sucrose, 0.01% Polysorbate $80,\,308~\text{mM}$ NaCl, 1.7~mM CaCl2 (dihydrate), 0.37~mM L-Methionine, pH 6.9) to a concentration between 40 and 10000 U/ml and stored at -80~C until use.

Before tail transection, the mice are anaesthetised with isoflurane and placed on a heating pad

The tails are placed in pre-heated saline at 37° C. for 10 min I.v. controls are injected 5 min, 24 or 48 hr prior to injury 45 The tail is transected 4 mm from the tip

Immediately before tail cut a 20 μ l blood sample is drawn from the peri-orbital plexus for FVIII determination

Blood is collected over 30 min and the haemoglobin concentration determined by spectrophotometry at 550 nm

Parallel animals are used for blood sampling and subsequent analysis of their clotting parameters (ex vivo efficacy).

Results:

The prophylactic effect of the co-formulation is determined from comparing the blood loss during the 30 min study period at a certain time after s.c. administration (5 min until 168 hr) to that of 1, a vehicle control and 2, an i.v. control group with FVIII or glycoPEGylated FVIII. FIG. 10 shows that glycoPEGylated FVIII are haemostatic effective 24 hr after s.c. administration of 2500 U/kg as shown by reduction of blood loss and shortening of clot time ex vivo. Similar effect is seen for FVIII co-formulated with a VWF fragment.

Example 4

Evaluation of Bioavailability of FVIII:

Bioavailability of co-compositions of FVIII and VWF/ VWF fragments according to the invention can be determined 36

from evaluations of the effect on bioavailability in PK experiments as those described in examples 1 and 2 as well as evaluations of the prophylactic effect as described in example 3

The bioavailability of a FVIII compound co-formulated with a concentration of VWF fragment that enables the majority of FVIII to be bound to a VWF fragment compound in the injection composition can be determined from the concentration of FVIII compound in the composition and from experiments evaluating the binding affinity of the VWF fragment compound to the FVIII compound such as e.g. surface plasmon resonance experiments.

Example 5

Titration of Dosis of FVIII: VWF Co-Composition:

Dose titration can be carried out as disclosed in examples 1-3. Briefly, plasma concentration of FVIII will be evaluated after s.c. administration of doses of 70, 100, 150, 280, 500, 1000 and 2500 IU/kg (FVIII units) alone or together with a VWF fragment in FVIII k/o mice.

Example 6

Titration of Ratio Between FVIII Compound and VWF Compound:

Titration of ratios between FVIII and VWF can be carried out as disclosed in experiments similar to that in examples 1 and 2 as well as that described in example 3.

For PK evaluation, doses of 280, 500, 1000 or 2500 IU/kg FVIII compound will be co-formulated with VWF fragments at a molar ratio of 1:1, 1:1.5, 1:2, 1:3, 1:4, 1:5, 1:7.7 or up to 1:100 (FVIII to VWF fragment) and plasma concentration of FVIII evaluated in FVIII k/o mice after s.c. administration. The maximum molar surplus of VWF fragment to FVIII will be determined from binding affinities of the fragment to the FVIII compound in question; the highest molar surplus used will be the one that should result in at least 99% of the FVIII used bound to a VWF fragment.

For prophylactic effect, the candidate compositions from the PK experiments will be evaluated in efficacy models, such as the tail bleeding described in example 3.

Example 7

Effect of VWF on Immunogenicity of FVIII

The immuno-modulatory effect of VWF co-formulated with a FVIII compound is evaluated in comparison to wild type FVIII and FVIII compounds alone.

In vivo, the relative immunogenicity is evaluated from the titer of FVIII binding antibodies and the determination of the level of neutralizing antibodies (inhibitors) at certain time points after administration. The assay for detection of FVIII binding antibodies is a radioimmunoassay (RIA). Briefly, anti-FVIII antibodies from a sample bind to radioactive ¹²⁵I-labelled rFVIII. Immunoglobulin and immune complexes bind to protein G-sepharose and is precipitated by centrifugation. The radioactivity in the precipitate is measured and this is proportional to the amount of anti-FVIII antibodies in the sample. The result is expressed in percent of the total amount of added radioactivity, i.e. as % bound/total (% B/T).

Samples positive for anti-FVIII antibodies are analysed for the presence of FVIII neutralizing antibodies using a chromogenic assay. Briefly, samples are incubated with 1 IU/ml FVIII for 1 hr. The remaining FVIII activity is determined by addition of FIX, FX, thrombin, CaCl₂ and phospholipids. After incubation the amount of generated FXa is determined

by addition of the chromogenic substrate S-2760 and the change in optical density (OD) is measured. The OD change is proportional to FVIII activity in the samples, and is compared to samples containing a known amount of FVIII and no inhibitors. The % remaining activity of the test sample is 5 calculated compared to the reference samples without inhibitors/anti-FVIII antibodies added. Furthermore, the presence of anti-VWF antibodies is measured by ELISA using monoclonal or polyclonal anti-human VWF antibodies which does not cross react with murine VWF. If a strong anti-VWF 10 response is detected, this can be expected to interfere with the binding of VWF to FVIII and the in vivo analysis is repeated using murine VWF fragments.

The appearance of anti-drug antibodies is evaluated after repeated (e.g. once weekly for 4 weeks or once daily for three 15 weeks) s.c. administration of the compounds in naïve mice, in FVIII k/o mice as well as in mice tolerized to human FVIII. The readout is the ratio of animals with positive titres at certain time points after the first and/or the last administration (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 weeks). FVIII k/o mice are injected 20 weekly e.g. with 1000 IU/kg FVIII alone or in combination with VWF in a molar ratio ensuring that at least e.g. 87% of FVIII is bound to VWF. For daily administration, the FVIII dose is lower and based upon the bioavailability of the FVIII-VWF complex. Mice tolerized to hFVIII are injected weekly 25 for e.g. eight weeks s.c. with e.g. 1000 IU/kg FVIII with or without VWF and in some experiments including additional challenge with complete Freund's adjuvant (CFA) for the first injection followed by weekly challenges by incomplete Freund's adjuvant (IFA).

Relative immunogenicity of VWF versus VWF fragments and of wild type FVIII versus a FVIII compound co-formulated with VWF is furthermore evaluated in vitro in a human CD4+ T-cell assay. This is done using peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) depleted of CD8+ T-cells. FVIII is added to the cell culture e.g. for eight days. T-cell proliferation is evaluated during the course of the assay by pulsing for e.g. 18 h with ³H-thymidine in sub-samples from the cultures and subsequently measuring ³H-thymidine incorporation. Interleukin 2 production is measured at the end of the assay using an ELISPOT IL-2 kit e.g. from R&D Systems, following the manufacturer's instructions. The data obtained in the assays are converted to a "stimulation index" describing the ratio between compound-stimulated versus un-stimulated cells.

The HLA-binding capacity of VWF has been evaluated using in silico analysis of HLA-binding properties. Strong binding to a sequence in a modified VWF may indicate novel T-cell epitopes, although the in silico analysis tool is predicting epitopes that may not be processed by the naturally occur- 50 ring proteases. In order to predict if the Cys->Ser mutation will induce a risk of induced immunogenicity in the VWFmutants, the VWF protein sequences are applied to an in silico peptide/HLA-II binding prediction software. The peptide/HLA-II binding prediction software is based on two dif- 55 ferent algorithms, NetMHCIIpan 2.1 (NetMHCIIpan-2.0-Improved pan-specific HLA-DR predictions using a novel concurrent alignment and weight optimization training procedure. Nielsen M, Lundegaard C, Justesen S, Lund O, and Buus S. Immunome Res. 2010 Nov. 13; 6(1):9) performing 60 pan-specific HLA-DR predictions—and NetMHCII 2.0 (NNalign—A neural network-based alignment algorithm for MHC class II peptide binding prediction. Nielsen M and Lund O. BMC Bioinformatics. 2009 Sep. 18; 10:296) performing HLA-DP/DQ predictions.

Twenty-three amino acid long peptides with the point of mutation in position 12 are used as input to the algorithms.

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The optimal processed peptide is assumed to be a 15'mer peptide with a nine amino acid core peptide binding to the HLA-II. The output is 15 amino acid long peptides with 9 amino acid long core peptides (in contact with HLA-II) and the predicted binding affinities in nanomolar.

The predicted binding affinities of the VWF mutant peptides are in the same range as the binding affinities of the wild type sequences (data not shown)—and because the peptides are predicted to bind with relatively poor affinity to the HLA-II molecules, the risk of inducing novel CD4+ T-cell epitopes is considered to be very low.

Of note, the in silico peptide/HLA-II binding predictions are based on experimental peptide/HLA-II binding data where it is very challenging to test cysteine-rich peptides (due to the nature of the peptides). Thus, cysteine-rich peptides are underrepresented in data sets used to train the different prediction algorithms. Therefore, the peptide/HLA-II binding predictions of these cysteine-rich VWF peptides are uncertain and should be analysed further using other immunogenicity prediction platforms (etc. in vitro peptide/HLA-II binding assays or ex vivo T-cell assays).

Example 8

Subcutaneous Administration in FVIII Knockout Mice (3): Two Test Compounds were Prepared:

- a) B-domain truncated FVIII ("turoctocog alfa")"N8"—
 produced essentially as disclosed in example 1 in
 WO2009108806) (4000 IU FVIII/ml determined by
 chromogenic activity assay and equivalent to 2.4 μM)
- b) B-domain truncated FVIII (turoctocog alfa) (1000 IU FVIII/ml determined by chromogenic activity assay and equivalent to 0.6 μM) co-formulated with 0.37 mg/ml VWF fragment TIL'/E'/D3/A1 (equivalent to 4.6 μM) Based on a measured binding affinity of 1.5 nM of the VWF fragment to FVIII, 99% of the FVIII should be

bound to VWF in this composition.

Both test compounds were formulated in 18 mg/ml
NaCl, 3 mg/ml saccharose, 1.5 mg/ml L-histidine,
0.1 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.25 mg/ml CaCl₂, pH
~73

12 FVIII KO mice, exon 16 knock-out in a mixed background of C57Bl/6 and SV129, bred at Taconic M&B (B6.129S4-F8tm1Kaz/J) with an approximate weight of 22 g were dosed subcutaneously in the flank with 10000 IU/kg FVIII or FVIII/VWF, 6 mice with each test compound.

Blood was sampled at 1, 3, 7, 17, 24, 30, 48, 72 and 96 h post administration. The mice were anaesthetized by Isoflurane/ O_2/N_2O prior to blood sampling via the retroorbital plexus. Three samples were taken from each mouse. 45 μ l of blood was stabilised with 5 μ l of sodium-citrate (0.13 M) and added 200 μ l FVIII coatest SP buffer (50 mM TRIS-HCl, 1% BSA, Ciprofloxacin 10 mg/L, pH 7.3). After centrifugation at 4000 g for 5 minutes at room temperature, the supernatants were immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at -80° C. prior to analysis.

Samples were analysed with regards to FVIII activity in a chromogenic assay as described by Ovlisen K et al. J. Thromb. Haemost, 2008, 6: 969-975 and by FVIII antigen analysis using two FVIII light chain antibodies (4F45 and 4F11) in a FVIII LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channelling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data were analysed by non-compartmental analysis using WinNonlin Phoenix (Pharsight Corporaton) estimating the given pharmaco-

kinetic parameters. The bioavailability was estimated using a previous i.v. pharmacokinetic study of N8-GP in FVIII KO mice

The circulating profiles of FVIII activity are shown graphically in FIG. 5 and antigen levels are shown in FIG. 6.

In this experiment, the bioavailability of B-domain truncated FVIII alone was calculated to be 0.9% based on activity. The co-formulation with the VWF fragment increased the bioavailability to 11%.

Example 9

Subcutaneous Administration in FVIII Knockout Mice (4): Two Test Compounds were Prepared:

- a) 226 amino acid B domain variant (1000 IU FVIII/ml determined by chromogenic activity assay and equivalent to $2.4~\mu M)$
- b) 226 amino acid B domain variant (1000 IU FVIII/ml determined by chromogenic activity assay and equivalent to 0.6 μM) co-formulated with 0.37 mg/ml VWF fragment TIL'/E'/D3/A1 (equivalent to 4.6 μM)

Based on a measured binding affinity of 1.5 nM of the VWF fragment to FVIII, 99% of the FVIII should be bound to VWF in this composition.

Both test compounds were formulated in 18 mg/ml NaCl, 3 mg/ml saccharose, 1.5 mg/ml L-histidine, 25 0.1 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.25 mg/ml CaCl₂, pH ~7.3

12 FVIII KO mice, exon 16 knock-out in a mixed background of C57Bl/6 and SV129, bred at Taconic M&B (B6.129S4-F8tm1Kaz/J) with an approximate weight of 22 g were dosed subcutaneously in the flank with 10000 IU/kg FVIII or FVIII/VWF, 6 mice with each test compound.

Blood was sampled at 1, 3, 7, 17, 24, 30, 48, 72 and 96 h post administration. The mice were anaesthetized by Isoflurane/ O_2/N_2O prior to blood sampling via the retro-orbital plexus. Three samples were taken from each mouse. 45 μ l of blood was stabilised with 5 μ l of sodium-citrate (0.13 M) and added 200 μ l FVIII coatest SP buffer (50 mM TRIS-HCl, 1% BSA, Ciprofloxacin 10 mg/L, pH 7.3). After centrifugation at 4000 g for 5 minutes at room temperature, the supernatants were immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at –80° C. 40 prior to analysis.

Samples were analysed with regards to FVIII activity in a chromogenic assay as described by Ovlisen K et al. J. Thromb. Haemost, 2008, 6: 969-975 and by FVIII antigen analysis using two FVIII light chain antibodies (4F45 and 4F11) in a FVIII LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channelling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data were analysed by non-compartmental analysis using WinNonlin Phonix (Pharsight Corporaton) estimating the given pharmacokinetic parameters. The bioavailability was estimated using a previous i.v. pharmacokinetic study of N8-GP in FVIII KO mice.

In this experiment, the bioavailability of the 226 amino acid B domain FVIII variant alone was similar to that obtained with co-formulation with VWF. Hence, for this variant with a longer B-domain, VWF did not increase the bioavailability.

Example 10

Construction of Expression Vectors Encoding FVIII Molecules

Plasmid with insert encoding the F8-500 FVIII molecule (F8-500 equals turoctocog alfa/N8 encoding sequence) was used for production of FVIII. Starting at the N-terminus, the F8-500 vector encodes the FVIII heavy chain without the B domain (amino acids 1-740), a 21 amino acid linker (SFSQN-SRHPSQNPPVLKRHQR—SEQ ID NO 2), and the FVIII

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light chain (amino acids 1649-2332 of full-length wild-type human FVIII). The sequence of the 21 amino acid linker is derived from the FVIII B domain and consists of amino acids 741-750 and 1638-1648 of full length wild-type human FVIII. Fragments of FVIII cDNA were amplified from full length FVIII cDNA and inserted into F8-500 coding plasmid giving rise to DNA constructs encoding the BDD FVIII.

Contructs encoding F8-500D-HIS-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-hFc(IgG1), F8-500D-HIS-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-mFc (IgG2A), and F8-500D-HIS-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-albumin were established as described in the following. The internal BamHI site (aa 604-606) in F8-500 coding DNA was eliminated by site-directed mutagenesis and DNA encoding the flexible (GGGS)6 linker was inserted 3' to the coding region.

A new BamHI site was introduced in the 3' end of the linker-coding DNA in order to ease cloning of C-terminal fusion partners between BamHI and NotI sites. Thus, a construct encoding F8-500-C2-linked-(GGGS)6 was generated. DNA encoding human Fc (IgG1), mouse Fc (IgG2a), and human serum albumin was amplified.

The PCR products were inserted between the BamHI and Not I sites of the F8-500-C2-linked-(GGGS)6 coding vector giving rise to constructs encoding F8-500-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-hFc(IgG1), F8-500-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-albumin. A Sphl/ClaI restriction fragment from the latter constructs were transferred to a F8-500D-His-coding constructs in order to generate F8-500D-HIS-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-hFc(IgG1)-, F8-500D-HIS-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-mFc(IgG2A)-, and F8-500D-HIS-C2-linked-(GGGS)6-albumin coding constructs.

For transient expression as described in Example 11, DNA constructs consisting of the mammalian expression vector pTT5 with insert encoding BDD FVIII were utilized. For generation of stable cell lines producing BDD FVIII, the vector pTSV7 is utilized. This vector encodes dihydrofolate reductase allowing selection of transfected cells with the dihydrofolate reductase system. A Spel/AgeI restriction fragment from a pTT5-derived vector encoding F8-500D-His was transferred to a pTSV7-derived vector encoding F8-500 leading to construct #1917 consisting of pTSV7 with insert encoding F8-500D-His.

Example 11

Transient Expression of FVIII

HKB11 cells at a density of 0.9-1.1×10⁶ were transfected with a complex of plasmid (0.7 mg/l or 1.0 mg/l) and the transfection agent, 293Fectin (Invitrogen) (1.0 ml/l or 1.4 ml/l). The transfection complex was prepared by diluting the plasmid and the transfection separately, mixing the two solutions, and incubating the mixture at room temperature for 20 minutes. The complex mixture was added to the cell suspension and the suspension was incubated in shaker incubator for 4 or 5 days at 36.5° C. or 37° C. and at 5% or 8% CO₂. Cell culture harvests were analysed by chromogenic FVIII assay as described in Example 14 and/or filtered through a 0.22 µm membrane filter and utilized for purification of FVIII as described in Example 13.

Example 12

Stable Cell Line Expressing FVIII

Serum-free adapted CHO-DUKX-B11 cells were transfected with the expression plasmid construct #1917 described in Example 10 and encoding the FVIII F8-500D-His. Transfected cells were selected with the dihydrofolate reductase system and cloned by limiting dilution. Clones were screened for FVIII production by ELISA and chromogenic activity assay. The clone GedT019A was selected for upscaling. The

cells were transferred to a bioreactor. The F8-500D-His protein was purified from cell culture harvests as described in Example 13

Example 13

Purification of FVIII

A column was packed with the resin VIIISelect (GE Healthcare), with the dimensions 1.6 cm in diameter and 4 cm in bed height giving 8 mL, and was equilibrated with 20 mM 10 Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+250 mM NaCl, pH7.3 at 500 cm/h. The culture filtrate prepared as described in Example 3 was applied to the column, and the column was subsequently washed with first equilibration buffer and then 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+1.5M NaCl, pH7.3. The bound FVIII was eluted isocratic at 90 cm/h with 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+1M Ammoniumacetate+6.5M Propylenglycol, pH7.3. The fractions containing FVIII were pooled and diluted 1:10 with 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80, pH7.3 and 20 applied to a column packed with F25-Sepharose (Thim et al., Haemophilia, 2009). The column dimension was 1.6 cm in diameter and 2 cm in bed height giving 4 mL in column volume. The column was equilibrated at 180 cm/h with 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+150 mM NaCl+1M Glycerol, pH7.3 prior to application. After appli- 25 cation the column was washed first with equilibration buffer and then 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+ 650 mM NaCl, pH7.3. The bound FVIII was isocratic eluted with 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂ 0.01% Tween80+ 2.5M NaCl+50% (v/v) Ethylenglycol, pH7.3 at 30 cm/h. The 30 fractions containing FVIII were pooled and diluted 1:15 with 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80, pH7.3, except FVIII-variants with deletions of the a3 domain which were diluted 1:45 in the same buffer. The diluted pool was applied to a column packed with Poros 50HQ (PerSeptive 35 Biosystem), with the column dimensions 0.5 cm in diameter and 5 cm in bed height giving 1 mL in column volume. The column was equilibrated at 300 cm/h with 20 mM Imidazole+ 10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+50 mM NaCl+1M Glycerol, pH7.3 prior to application. The column was washed with equilibration buffer before the elution using a linear gradient over 5 column volumes from equilibration buffer to 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+1M NaCl+1M Glycerol, pH7.3. The fractions containing FVIII were pooled and the pool was stored at -80° until use.b

The FVIII molecules with HIS-tag were purified essen- 45 tially as described above, however the second purification step (F25-sepharose) was exchanged to Chelating Sepharose FF (GE Healtcare) charged with 2 column volumes of 1M NiSO₄. The column dimension was 0.5 cm in diameter and 5 cm bed height giving 1 mL column volume. The column was 50 equilibrated with 30 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+1.5M NaCl, pH7.3 at 180 cm/h prior to application. After application the column was washed with 30 column volumes of equilibration buffer prior to elution using a linear gradient over 5 column volumes to 250 mM Imidazole+10 55 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80+1.5M NaCl, pH7.3. The fractions containing FVIII were pooled and diluted 1:30 with 20 mM Imidazole+10 mM CaCl₂+0.01% Tween80, pH7.3. The final purification step (Poros 50HQ) was performed as described above.

Example 14

 $FVIII\,Activity\,in\,Cell\,Culture\,Harvests\,Measured\,by\,Chromogenic\,Assay$

The FVIII activity (FVIII:C) of the rFVIII compound was 65 evaluated in a chromogenic FVIII assay using Coatest SP reagents (Chromogenix) as follows: rFVIII samples and a

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FVIII standard (Coagulation reference, Technoclone) were diluted in Coatest assay buffer (50 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, 1% BSA, pH 7.3, with preservative). Fifty μl of samples, standards, and buffer negative control were added to 96-well microtiter plates (Spectraplates MB, Perkin Elmer). All samples were tested diluted 1:100, 1:400, 1:1600, and 1:6400. The factor IXa/factor X reagent, the phospholipid reagent and CaCl₂ from the Coatest SP kit were mixed 5:1:3 (vol:vol) and 75 µl of this added to the wells. After 15 min incubation at room temperature, 50 µl of the factor Xa substrate 5-2765/thrombin inhibitor I-2581 mix was added and the reactions were incubated 5 min at room temperature before 25 µl 1 M citric acid, pH 3, was added. The absorbance at 405 nm was measured on an Envision microtiter plate reader (Perkin Elmer) with absorbance at 620 nm used as reference wavelength. The value for the negative control was subtracted from all samples and a calibration curve prepared by linear regression of the absorbance values plotted vs. FVIII concentration. The yields of the present FVIII relative to that of the F8-500 protein are shown in Table 1.

Example 15

FVIII Activity in Purified Samples Measured by Chromogenic Assay

The FVIII activity (FVIII:C) of the rFVIII compound was evaluated in a chromogenic FVIII assay using Coatest SP reagents (Chromogenix) as follows: rFVIII samples and a FVIII standard (e.g. purified wild-type rFVIII calibrated against the 7th international FVIII standard from NIBSC) were diluted in Coatest assay buffer (50 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, 1% BSA, pH 7.3, with preservative). Fifty µl of samples, standards, and buffer negative control were added to 96-well microtiter plates (Nunc) in duplicates. The factor IXa/factor X reagent, the phospholipid reagent and CaCl₂ from the Coatest SP kit were mixed 5:1:3 (vol:vol:vol) and 75 μl of this added to the wells. After 15 min incubation at room temperature 50 µl of the factor Xa substrate S-2765/thrombin inhibitor I-2581 mix was added and the reactions incubated 10 min at room temperature before 25 µl 1 M citric acid, pH 3, was added. The absorbance at 415 nm was measured on a Spectramax microtiter plate reader (Molecular Devices) with absorbance at 620 nm used as reference wavelength. The value for the negative control was subtracted from all samples and a calibration curve prepared by linear regression of the absorbance values plotted vs. FVIII concentration. The specific activity was calculated by dividing the activity of the samples with the protein concentration determined by HPLC. For HPLC, the concentration of the sample was determined by integrating the area under the peak in the chromatogram corresponding to the light chain and compare with the area of the same peak in a parallel analysis of a wild-type rFVIII, where the concentration was determined by amino acid analyses. The results are shown in Table 1.

Example 16

FVIII Activity in Purified Samples Measured by One-Stage Clot Assay

FVIII activity (FVIII:C) of the rFVIII compounds was further evaluated in a one-stage FVIII clot assay as follows: rFVIII samples and a FVIII standard (e.g. purified wild-type rFVIII calibrated against the 7th international FVIII standard from NIBSC) were diluted in HBS/BSA buffer (20 mM hepes, 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.4 with 1% BSA) to approximately 10 IU/ml followed by 10-fold dilution in FVIII-deficient plasma containing VWF (Dade Behring or Siemens). The samples were subsequently diluted in HBS/BSA buffer. The

APTT clot time was measured on an ACL300R or an ACL9000 instrument (Instrumentation Laboratory) using the single factor program. FVIII-deficient plasma with VWF (Dade Behring or Siemens) was used as assay plasma and SynthASil, (HemosILTM, Instrumentation Laboratory) as 5 aPTT reagent. In the clot instrument, the diluted sample or

standard is mixed with FVIII-deficient plasma, aPTT reagents at 37° C. Calcium chloride is assed and time until clot formation is determined by turbidity. The FVIII activity in the sample is calculated based on a standard curve of the clot formation times of the dilutions of the FVIII standard. The results are shown in table 1.

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TABLE 1

Yields	and specific activities of for e	different BDD FV asier purification).		-tagged"
Compound	B domain amino acids	Yield by transient transfection (relative to F8- 500)	Specific activity measured by chromogenic assay (IU/mg)	Specific activity measured by one- stage clot assay (IU/mg)
F8-500E-His	741-857 + 1637-1648	0.7	10501	9122
F8-500L-His	741-914 + 1637-1648	0.6	10330	8282
F8-500M-His	741-954 + 1637-1648	0.6	12404	10259
F8-500D-His	741-965 + 1637-1648	0.3	9015	9579
F8-500G-His	741-965 + 1637-1648	0.7	11507	9822
	Amino acid replacements: N757Q-N784Q- N828Q-N900Q- N943Q-N963Q			
F8-500N-His	741-1003 + 1637-1648	0.4	_	_
F8-500H-His	741-1020 + 1637-1648	0.7	10027	10541
F8-500I-His	741-1079 + 1637-1648	0.7	_	
F8-500J-His	741-1206 + 1637-1648	0.6	_	
F8-500F-His	741-1261 + 1637-1648	0.3	5691	4855
F8-500K-His	741-1309 + 1637-1648	0.4	_	
F8-500-His2-4N	741-914 + 1637-1648	0.6	_	
F8-500-His2-5N	741-954 + 1637-1648	0.7	_	_
F8-500-His2-6N	741-968 + 1637-1648	0.6	14088	12784
F8-500-His2-7N	741-1003 + 1637-1648	0.5	7211	7542
F8-500-His2-8N	741-1018 + 1637-1648	0.7	8664	7481
F8-500-His2-10N	741-1070 + 1637-1648	0.6	12391	8253
F8-500-His2-11N	741-1230 + 1637-1648	0.5		_
F8-500-His2-15N	741-1301 + 1637-1648	0.4	_	_
F8-500D-His- D519V-E1984A	741-965 + 1637-1648	0.5	15282	9729
F8-500D-His-C2 linked-(GGGS)6- hFc(IgG1)	741-965 + 1637-1648	0.6	_	_
F8-500D-His-C2 linked-(GGGS)6-	741-965 + 1637-1648	0.6	13509	8858
mFc(IgG2a) F8-500D-His-C2 linked-(GGGS)6- albumin	741-965 + 1637-1648	0.7	12226	5852

Example 17

Construction of Expression Vectors Encoding VWF Frag- $_{50}$ ments

DNA fragments encoding the VWF signal peptide, followed by different C-terminally truncated versions, the VWF D' domain and the VWF D3 domain, an Ala-Leu-Ala spacer and a HPC4 tag were generated by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using plasmid pLC095 as template (Plasmid pLLC095 is described in Example 26. The primer JP1000 was used as forward primer in all PCR reactions in combination with the reverse primers JP1001-JP1008 shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Forward primer	Forward primer Sequence (5'-3')
JP1000 VWF-HindIII S	CTAAGCGT <u>AAGCTT</u> GCCACC ATG ATTCCTGCCAGATTTGC

TABLE 2-continued

Reverse primer	Reverse primer Sequence (5'-3')
JP1001 VWF 764-828	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCGGGACACCTTTCCAGGGCCACA C (SEQ ID NO 24)
JP1002 VWF 764-865	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCGGCATCACACACATGGTCTGTGCC (SEQ ID NO 25)
JP1003 VWF 764-1035	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCTCTGGTGTCAGCACACTGCGAGCTCC (SEQ ID NO 26)
JP1004 VWF 764-1041	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCTGAGTCCAGAGGCACTTTTCTGG (SEQ ID NO 27)
JP1005 VWF 764-1045	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCGGTGGCAGGGGATGAGTCCAGA G (SEQ ID NO 28)
JP1006 VWF 764-1250	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCGGCATCTGTGGGAGGCACCACC (SEQ ID NO 29)
JP1007 VWF 764-1261	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCGTCCTCCACATACAGAGTGGTG (SEQ ID NO 30)
JP1008 VWF 764-1268	TGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCATCGTGCAACGGCGGTTCCGAG (SEQ ID NO 31)

The PCR products were digested with HindIII and NheI and were subsequently cloned into a HindIII and NheI digested pJSV164 vector using Rapid DNA Ligation kit (Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany). pJSV164 is a pTT5 based expression vector (Yves Durocher, CNRC, Montreal, Canada) containing a CD33 signal peptide and a HPC4 tag. Digestion of pJSV164 with HindIII and NheI removes the CD33 signal peptide and allows cloning of the gene of interest in frame with the HPC4 tag to generate an expression cassette encoding a C-terminally HPC4 tagged gene of interest in which the gene of interest and the HPC4 tag is separated by an Ala-Leu-Ala linker peptide. The ligation reactions were transformed into Top10 cells (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, Calif., USA).

The resulting eight plasmids were named as shown in Table 3. The amino acid sequences of the generated proteins are outlined in SEQ ID NO 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 16.

TABLE 3

Vector name	Insert
pJSV343	VWF 764-828-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 4)
pJSV344	VWF 764-865-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 5)

TABLE 3-continued

Vector name	Insert
pJSV345	VWF 764-1035-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 6)
pJSV346	VWF 764-1041-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 7)
pJSV347	VWF 764-1045-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 8)
pJSV348	VWF 764-1250-C1099/1142S-HPC4 (SEQ
	ID NO 11)
pJSV349	VWF 764-1261-C1099/1142S-HPC4 (SEQ
	ID NO 14)
pJSV350	VWF 764-1268-C1099/1142S-HPC4 (SEQ
-	ID NO 15)

Example 18

Construction of Expression Vectors Encoding VWF Fragments (2)

Three additional HPC4 tagged, truncated variants of VWF were generated by Ligation independent cloning (LIC) using pJSV348 (see Example 17) as template. Three independent PCR reactions were set-up on pJSV438 using the primers shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

Fragment	Primer name	Primer sequence (5'-3')
VWF(864- 1250)-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 12)	VWF(864-1250)- HPC4 S	GGGACCCTTTGTGATGCCACGTGCTCCACGATCG G (SEQ ID NO 32)
		GCACGTGGCATCACAAAGGGTCCCTGGCAAAATG AG (SEQ ID NO 33)
VWF(764- 1128)-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 9)		TTGTGCCCCCAGGAGGACCAAGTAGATCCGCGGC TC (SEQ ID NO 34)
	VWF(764-1129)- HPC4 AS	TACTTGGTCCTCCTGGGGGCACAATGTGGCCGTC (SEQ ID NO 35)

Fragment

VWF(764-

1198)-HPC4

(SEQ ID NO

(SEQ ID NO 37)

TABLE	4-continued
Primer name	Primer sequence (5'-3')
VWF(764-1198)- HPC4 S	GACTGTCCAGTGGAGGACCAAGTAGATCCGCGG (SEQ ID NO 36)
VWF(764-1198)-	TTGGTCCTCCACTGGACAGTCTTCAGGGTCAA

The three PCR fragments VWF(864-1250)-HPC4, VWF (764-1128)-HPC4 and VWF(764-1198)-HPC4 were 5685/ 5610/5817 by in size respectively. The PCR fragments were DpnI treated to remove methylated template DNA. The PCR fragments were subsequently purified from gel and were selfligated by LIC using the In-Fusion HD Cloning Kit (Clontech, Mountain View, Calif., USA) to generate circular DNA fragments and subsequently transformed into Top10 cells (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, Calif., USA).

The resulting three plasmids were named as shown in Table 5. The amino acid sequences of the generated proteins are outlined in SEQ ID NOs 12, 9, and 10.

TABLE 5

Vector name	Insert
pJSV405	VWF(864-1250)-C1099/1142S-HPC4 monomer (SEQ ID NO 12)
pJSV406 pJSV407	VWF(764-1128)-C1099S-HPC4 monomer (SEQ ID NO 9) VWF(764-1198)-C1099/1142S-HPC4 monomer (SEQ ID NO 10)

Example 19

Transient Expression of VWF Fragments

Human embryonic kidney 293 6E suspension cells at a density of 0.9-1.1×10⁶ cells/ml were transfected with a complex of VWF fragment coding plasmid (0.7 mg/l or 1.0 mg/l) 40 and the transfection agent 293Fectin (Invitrogen) (1.0 ml/l or 1.4 ml/l). The transfection complex was prepared by diluting the plasmid and the transfection separately, mixing the two solutions, and incubating the mixture at room temperature for 20 minutes. The complex mixture was added to the cell sus- 45 pension and the suspension was incubated in shaker incubator for 5 days at 36.5° C. or 37° C. and at 5% or 8% CO₂. Cell culture harvests were filtered through a 0.22 µm membrane filter and utilized for purification of VWF fragment as described in Example 22.

Example 20

Preparation of Dimer Forms of VWF Fragments

In the native full length VWF molecule (SEQ ID NO 22) 55 two cysteine residues in the N-terminal part of the molecule are supposed to participate in the dimerization and/or multimerization of VWF: Cys1099 and Cys1142.

In all of the monomeric fragments of the sequences (SEQ ID NO 10, SEQ ID NO 11, SEQ ID NO 12, SEQ ID NO 13, 60 SEQ ID NO 14, SEQ ID NO 15, SEQ ID NO 16, SEQ ID NO 17, SEQ ID NO 18, SEQ ID NO 19, SEQ ID NO 20, and SEQ ID NO 21) two cysteine residues (Cys1099 and Cys1142) are mutated to other amino acid residues so that the expressed molecule is not able to form dimers/multimers. A monomeric 65 fragment of SEQ ID NO 9 is generated by mutating Cys 1099 to another amino acid residue.

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In some cases, a dimeric form of the VWF fragments is wanted. This can be accomplished in several ways:

One method to accomplish dimer formation is to keep the two residues at position 1099 and position 1142 as cysteines. In order to make a recombinant dimeric molecule, the cDNA encoding the desired VWF fragment is including the presequence of VWF e.g the D1D2 sequence of VWF (amino acid ₂₀ residues 23-763 of SEQ ID NO 22). This will, during processing in the golgi apparatus align two monomers of a given VWF fragment in a configuration allowing a dimeric molecule to be formed with two disulphide bonds in which Cys1099 in monomer 1 is connected to a Cys1099 in mono-25 mer 2 and Cys1142 in monomer 1 is connected to Cys1142 in monomer 2.

Another method to accomplish dimer formation is to avoid the inclusion of the presequence (amino acid residues 23-763 of SEQ ID NO 22) and simply let a recombinant VWF fragment with Cys in position 1099 and 1142 form a dimeric molecule. This can in principle result in a series of different dimers e.g.:

Cys1099-Cys1099/Cys1142-Cys1142 (two disulphide bonds—like above)

Cys1099-Cys1142/Cys1099-Cys1142 (two disulphide

Cys1099-Cys1099 (one disulphide bond)

Cys1142-Cys1142 (one disulphide bond)

Cys1099-Cys1142 (one disulphide bond)

Yet another method to accomplish dimer formation may be toto replace one of the cysteine residues 1099 or 1142 with other amino acid residues (e.g. Serine, Arginine).

If Cys1099 is replaced with a non-Cysteine residue, the molecule may form a dimer by establishment of a disulphide bond between Cys1142 in monomer 1 with Cys1142 in monomer 2.

If Cys1142 is replaced with a non-Cysteine residue, the molecule may form a dimer by establishment of a disulphide bond between Cys1099 in monomer 1 with Cys1099 in monomer 2.

The dimeric forms mentioned above may be constructed either with or without the D1D2 presequence of VWF (amino acid residues 23-763 of SEQ ID NO 22).

The different monomeric and dimeric forms will have different properties with regards to their binding to FVIII, their ease of production and their effect on bioavailability of FVIII when injected subcutaneously as a co-formulation.

Example 21

Evaluation of Binding of VWF and VWF Fragments to FVIII Using a Competition ELISA

In order to investigate the binding of the different VWF fragments to FVIII the following method is used. Briefly, human VWF is coated in a microtiterplate and incubated overnight at 4° C. After blocking, a solution with pre-incubated FVIII (1 nM) and VWF/VWF-fragment is added to the

plate, followed by detection with biotinylated anti FVIII antibody and streptavidin-peroxidase S-POD (1:20000). The absorbance is measured at 450/620 nm. The IC50 values are shown in Table 6.

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acetic acid, 100 mM NaCl, pH=4.0. The pool from the anti-VWF column is adjusted to pH=7.5 and applied onto a Mono Q column. Prior to the application the Mono Q column is equilibrated with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, pH=7.5.

TABLE 6

Compound number	Domain/comment	VWF fragment sequence	Derived from SEQ ID NO	IC50 (Ki)
2304	TIL'E'	VWF(764-865)-ALA-HPC4 monomer	5	2.0 μM
2306	TIL'/E'/VWD3 II	VWF(764-1041)-ALA-HPC4 monomer	7	2.2 μM
2307	TIL'/E'/VWD3 III	VWF(764-1045)-ALA-HPC4 monomer	8	2.0 μM
2308	TIL'/E'/D3 I	VWF(764-1250)-C1099/1142S-ALA-HPC4 monomer	11	12 nM
2309	TIL'/E'/D3 II	VWF(764-1261)-C1099/1142S-ALA-HPC4 monomer	14	10 mM
2310	TIL'/E'/D3 III	VWF(764-1268)-C1099/1142S-ALA-HPC4 monomer	16	15 nM
0170	TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III	VWF(764-1464)-C1099/1142S-HPC4 monomer	19	12 nM
0194	TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III	VWF(764-1464)-C1099S-HPC4 monomer	19	8.0 nM
0240	TIL'/E'/D3/A1 IIIdimer	VWF(764-1464)-HPC4 dimer	19	0.7 nM
0001	D3 I	VWF(864-1250)-C1099/1142S-ALA-HPC4 monomer	12	20 μM
0003	TIL'/E'/VWD3/C8- 3/TIL-3	VWF(764-1198)-C1099/1142S-ALA-HPC4 monomer	10	28 nM
0314	Plasma derived full length VWF	VWF (764-2813)	22	1.1 nM

These differences in FVIII binding between different fragments could indicate different effects in a subcutaneously administered FVIII co-formulation. The IC50 values are also 30 being used to determine the optimal VWF and FVIII concentrations in the co-formulation mixtures.

Example 22

Purification and Characterisation of HPC4-Tagged VWF

Some VWF fragments are cloned and expressed with a C-terminal HPC4 tag: EDQVDPRLIDGK (SEQ ID NO 38). Sometimes an additional linker with the sequence of ALA is introduced between the VWF fragment and the HPC4 tag. After cloning, expression and cell culturing the cell media is added CaCl₂ to a final concentration of 1 mM. The media is passed over an anti-HPC4 column. The column is equilibrated with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM CaCl₂, pH=7.5. After application of the cell media, the column is 45 washed with 20 mM HEPES, 1 M NaCl, 1 mM CaCl₂, pH=7.5 and the HPC4-tagged VWF fragment is subsequently eluted with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA, pH=7.5. The pool from the anti-HPC4 column is added 3 volumes of water to reduce the conductivity and applied onto a Mono Q 50 column. Prior to the application the Mono Q column is equilibrated with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA, pH=7.5. The Mono Q column is washed with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, pH=7.5 and the VWF fragment is eluted with a gradient from 100 mM NaCl to 2M NaCl in 20 mM HEPES, 55 10 mM CaCl₂, pH=7.5.

The purified protein is characterised by 1) SDS-gel electrophoreses, 2) analytical HPLC and 3) amino acid sequence analysis.

Purification and Characterisation of Non-Tagged VWF Fragments.

After cloning, expression and cell culturing the cell media is passed over an anti-VWF column. The anti-VWF antibody recognise amino acid residue number 764-865 of VWF (SEQ ID NO 5). The column is equilibrated with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, pH=7.5. After application of the cell media, 65 the column is washed with 20 mM HEPES, 1M NaCl, pH=7.5 and the VWF fragment is subsequently eluted with 50 mM

The Mono Q column is washed with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, pH=7.5 and the VWF fragment is eluted with a gradient from 100 mM NaCl to 2M NaCl in 20 mM HEPES, pH=7.5.

The purified VWF fragment is characterised by 1) SDS-gel electrophoreses, 2) analytical HPLC and 3) amino acid sequence analysis.

Example 23

Evaluation of VWF Fragments Binding to FVIII by Using Isothermal Titration Calorimetry

All protein samples are dialyzed in 50 mM Hepes pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM CaCl₂ buffer. Each iTC experiment involves filling the iTC cell with FVIII (approximately 250 μL) and the syringe with VWF variants (approximately 40 μL). Temperature is set as required and the protein sample is allowed to equilibrate under given experimental conditions (approximately 10 minutes). Typically 17-20 injections (of 2-2.5 µL) of VWF variants into cell, containing FVIII, are performed. The first injection is always of 0.2 µL and is discarded from the final data analysis in order to account for diffusion during equilibration step. Stirring speed is set between 700-1000 rpm. Filter period for data collection is 5 sec with a high feedback mode setting. Each titration is spaced by 120 sec. Appropriate control experiments are performed. Raw data is processed to set baseline and integrated to obtain a final isotherm. This binding isotherm is fit to a single-site model to yield K_d , stoichiometry (n), ΔH , and ΔS values to complete characterization of VWF variant binding to FVIII. An example binding isotherm is shown in FIG. 9. These data are being used for determining the optimal concentrations of the FVIII and the VWF fragment in co-formulations intended for subcutaneous administrations.

Example 24

Subcutaneous Administration in FVIII Knockout Mice Test compounds were prepared as follows: Test compounds were formulated in 18 mg/ml NaCl, 3 mg/ml saccharose, 1.5 mg/ml L-histidine, 0.1 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.25 mg/ml CaCl2, pH ~7.3. For test formulations containing VWF or VWF fragments the % FVIII bound by VWF in the

co-formulation was calculated using the available IC50 (Ki) values as described above in example 21 (table 6) assuming $K_a=K_d$ or the K_d values obtained as described in example 23.

FVIII KO mice, exon 16 knock-out in a mixed background of C57Bl/6 and SV129, bred at Taconic M&B (B6.129S4-5F8tm1Kaz/J) with an approximate weight of 22 g were dosed subcutaneously in the flank with FVIII in combination with various proteins, 6-9 mice with each test compound. The dose volume was 5 ml/kg or 0.25 ml/kg if indicated in table 7.

Blood was sampled at 9 time points from 0-96 h, n=2-3 10 mice/time point, 3 blood samples from each mice in a sparse sampling regime. The mice were anaesthetized by Isoflurane/ O_2/N_2O prior to blood sampling via the retroorbital plexus. 45 μ l of blood was stabilised with 5 μ l of sodium-citrate (0.13 M) and added 200 μ l FVIII Coatest SP buffer (50 mM TRIS-15 HCl, 1% BSA, Ciprofloxacin 10 mg/L, pH 7.3). After cen-

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trifugation at 4000 g for 5 minutes at room temperature, the supernatants were immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at -80° C. prior to analysis.

Samples were analysed with regards to FVIII chromogenic activity as described by Ovlisen K et al. J. Thromb. Haemost, 2008, 6: 969-975 and by FVIII antigen analysis using two FVIII light chain antibodies (4F45 and 4F11) in a FVIII LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channelling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data were analysed by non-compartmental analysis using WinNonlin Phoenix (Pharsight Corporaton) estimating the given pharmacokinetic parameters. The bioavailability was estimated using a previous i.v. pharmacokinetic study of N8 or N8-GP in the FVIII KO mouse strain.

The s.c. FVIII bioavailabilities of the test compounds are shown in table 7 below and in FIGS. 7 and 8.

TABLE 7

FVIII Bioavailability values of a series of different FVIII molecules and

FVIII	FVIII Dose	Co-Formulation Protein	Molar Ratio	FVIII Saturation	F %
Turoctocog alfa	5000	(764-1464) monomer VWF	1	87%	7.3
rFVIII derived from the full-	2500	(764-1464) Dimer VWF	1	82%	7.4
length sequence					
(Kogenate ®) Turoctocog alfa	2500	(764-1250)	1	82%	7.6
Turoctocog alfa	2500	Monomer VWF (764-1041) Monomer VWF	34	82%	7.8
Turoctocog alfa	2500	(764-828) Monomer VWF	1	12%	1.4
Turoctocog alfa	2500	(764-865) Monomer VWF	1	12%	2.7
Turoctocog alfa	2500	(764-1045) Monomer VWF	1	12%	2.0
Turoctocog alfa	2500	(764-865) Monomer VWF	34	83.3%	4.3
Turoctocog alfa	2500/ 0.25 ml/kg	(764-1041) g Monomer VWF	3x	85.5%	5.03
Turoctocog alfa	2500/	(764-865) Monomer VWF	3x	86.5%	1.9
Turoctocog alfa	2500/	(764-1464) g Dimer VWF	1x	99%	8.4
Turoctocog alfa	2500	(764-1464) Murine monomer VWF	1	82%	5.6
Turoctocog alfa	2500	Human serum Albumin	611	Not applicable	3.7
Turoctocog alfa	2500	plasma derived full length VWF	1	99%	0.0
Turoctocog alfa	5000	(764-1464) monomer VWF	7.7	99%	8.2
Turoctocog alfa	5000	(764-1464) monomer VWF	3	99%	6.7
Turoctocog alfa	5000	(764-1464) monomer VWF	1	87%	7.3
Turoctocog alfa	5000	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	2.3
FVIII with a 226 aa B domain	5000	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	4.3
FVIII with a-226 aa B domain	5000	(764-1464) monomer VWF	7.7	0.99	7.0
N8-GP	2500	(764-1464) monomer VWF	1	0.82	27
N8-GP	10000	(764-1464) monomer VWF	7.7	0.99	47
N8-GP	2500	(764-1464)	7.7	0.99	36
N8-GP	2500	monomer VWF (764-1464)	1	0.99	33
FVIII-K1804-	2500	Dimer VWF (764-1464)	1	0.82	50
Hep157		monomer VWF			

53 TABLE 7-continued

FVIII Bioavailability values of a series of different FVIII molecules and FVIII/VWF fragment co-formulations obtained with s.c. administration in FVIII k/o mice.

FVIII	FVIII Dose	Co-Formulation Protein	Molar Ratio	FVIII Saturation	F %
FVIII-K1804-	2500	None	Not	Not	27
Hep157			applicable	applicable	
PSA40Kd-O-	2500	(764-1464)	1	0.82	8.8
Glycan-N8		monomer VWF			
PSA40Kd-O-	2500	None	Not	Not	6.1
Glycan-N8			applicable	applicable	
40kDa-PEG-	10000	None	Not	Not	20
FVIII-			applicable	applicable	
K2092A + F2093A					
N8-GP	10000	4F30 FVIII reduced uptake antibody	5	0.99	11
N8-GP	1000	Hirudin	0.5 mg/kg	Not applicable	7.6
N8-GP	10000	Hyaluronidase	0.5 activity ratio	Not applicable	8.4
N8-GP	20000	None	Not	Not	28
			applicable	applicable	
N8-GP	10000	None	Not	Not	19
			applicable	applicable	
N8-GP	2500	None	Not	Not	14
			applicable	applicable	
N8-GP	1000	None	Not	Not	17
			applicable	applicable	

The left column "FVIII" denotes the FVIII compound used in the experiment.

The s.c. bioavailability of FVIII co-formulated with a VWF fragment appear to depend on the saturation of the FVIII VWF binding sites in the co-formulation rather than on the VWF fragment length. The shortest VWF fragment, wherein a >80% saturation of FVIII was achieved, was 764-865—this formulation displayed a FVIII bioavailability of 4.3% (34 molar excess of N8/turoctocog alfa over VWF fragment). The longest VWF fragment tested, under similar conditions with respect to saturation, was the 764-1464 fragment which resulted in a FVIII bioavailability of 7.3%. The dimer form of the 764-1464 dosed in a lower volume of 0.25 ml/kg resulted in a FVIII bioavailability of 8.4%.

Fragments shorter than 764-1250, which do not contain the entire D3 region, bind FVIII with a higher IC50 (K_i) than longer fragments. Thus, 1 to 1 molar formulation of FVIII and VWF fragments shorter than 764-1250 displayed lower FVIII 50 bioavailabilities. i.e. less than 4%.

The s.c. FVIII bioavailability-improving effect of VWF fragments according to the invention may thus be obtained by saturation of the FVIII VWF binding sites with VWF-fragment. Short VWF fragments with relatively low FVIII binding affinity should thus be used in higher ratios compared to longer VWF fragments with better binding FVIII binding properties in order to obtain a high degree of bioavailability.

FVIII derived from the full-length sequence (Kogenate®) displayed the same degree of bioavailability as FVIII with a 60 truncated B domain (turoctocog alfa/N8) when co-formulated with the 764-1464 VWF fragment. This indicates that high FVIII bioavailability is not dependent on co-formulation with turoctocog alfa/N8 but is dependent on presence of the VWF fragment.

Co-formulation of FVIII (turoctocog alfa/N8) with fulllength plasma-derived human VWF resulted in FVIII bioavailability of about 0% thus demonstrating that only fragments of VWF are able to enhance bioavailability of FVIII. The reason for the lack of effect of the full-length VWF may be due to the presence of collagen binding site in the A3 domain which may result in binding and entrapment of. Preferred VWF fragments according to the present do thus not comprise the A3 domain. Alternatively or additionally, the multimerisation capabilities of full-length VWF produces large multimers that restricts systemic absorption due to size of the complex. The data indicates that also longer VWF fragments (preferably without the A3 domain) than those tested in table 7 will have the same beneficial effect on FVIII bioavailability.

Serum albumin did not improve the s.c. bioavailability of FVIII (turoctocog alfa/N8). Thus, presence of additional protein in a FVIII formulation does not appear to increase the s.c. bioavailability of FVIII—unless this protein is a VWF fragment according to the present invention.

VWF dose was not critical for FVIII s.c. bioavailability as seen for molar ratios between 1:1 and 1:7.7 of FVIII:VWF fragment. The critical factor for achieving a high FVIII bioavailability thus appear to be a high degree of FVIII saturation (binding) with VWF fragment. All compositions in these experiments comprising a calculated saturation of N8 of at least 86.8% thus resulted in similar bioavailabilities. VWF fragments according to the invention may thus protect FVIII at the s.c. injection site.

FVIII with a 226 amino acid (aa) B domain (SEQ ID NO 3), displayed a higher s.c. FVIII bioavailability than turoctocog alfa/N8. However, bioavailability of this FVIII with a 226 aa B-domain was comparable to turoctocog alfa/N8 in connection with s.c. co-administration with the VWF-fragment 764-1464 (TIL/E/D3/A1) monomer. It may thus be speculated

The column labelled "FVIII dose" denotes the FVIII dose (IU/kg) used in the experiment,

the column labelled "co-formulation protein" denotes the co-formulated protein (if any) used in the experiment.

The column labelled "Molar ratio" denotes the molar ratio to FVIII of the protein in the co-formulation.

The column labelled "FVIII Saturation" denotes the calculated fraction of FVIII that is binding the co-formulated protein at the concentrations used in the experiment

protein at the concentrations used in the experiment.

The column labelled "F %" denotes the bioavailability of FVIII obtained in the experiment

that the additional amino acids in the 226 aa B-domain (compared to turoctocog alfa/N8) may protect clearance sites of FVIII in connection with extravascular administration thereof, meaning that such FVIII molecules might be used for s.c. administration with or without VWF according to the present invention.

FVIIIK1804C-HEP157, displayed a bioavailability of 50% dosed in co-administration with the VWF-fragment 764-1464 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1) monomer and a bioavailability of 27% dosed alone. PSA40 Kd-O-Glycan-N8, displayed a bioavailability of 8.8% dosed in co-administration with the VWF-fragment 764-1464 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1) monomer and 6.11% dosed alone. It may thus be speculated that conjugation of FVIII molecules with Heparosan polymers and/or Polysialic acid polymers either protects FVIII against breakdown/uptake in the sub cutis or enhances s.c. absorption. Heparosan appear to be more effective than Sialic acid polymers in enhancing the s.c. bioavailability. Both FVIII variants displayed higher bioavailability's when dosed together with VWF fragment.

N8-GP and FVIIIK1804C-HEP157+764-1464 (TIL'/E'/D3/A1) monomer and dimer, resulted in the highest bioavailability obtained. Bioavailability of N8-GP may thus be increased by increasing the dose or the concentration in the co-formulation. Dose volume was 5 ml/kg in all dosing's, 25 thus the N8-GP concentration in the dosing solution was 2 times higher in the 20000 IU/kg dosing than in the 10000 IU/kg dosing. This resulted in 28% and 19% bioavailability respectively.

The 764-1464 dimer VWF fragment does not contain any mutations. The 764-1464 dimer VWF fragment binds stronger to Turoctocog alfa and N8-GP (table 6) but result in a similar bioavailability of FVIII as the monomer version of the fragment. This indicates that substituting Cys1099 and/or Cys1142 in the VWF fragments according to the invention does not influence the bioavailability of FVIII. Also, the binding affinity of VWF fragments to N8-GP does not influence the effect on bioavailability of N8-GP as long as more than 80% of the FVIII molecules are in complex with VWF fragment in co-formulation. Additionally, since the dimer version of VWF fragment 764-1464 improves the bioavailability, the maximum molecular weight of a desired VWF fragment may be equal to or larger than 158.8 KDa.

Co-formulation of N8-GP with hyaluronidase did not increase the FVIII bioavailability, indicating that the Hyaluron network in the extracellular matrix in the subcutis is not

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In this formulation, 2000 IU/ml N8-GP was co-formulated with 1 mg/ml of 4F30 which means that 99.6% of FVIII was bound to the mAb also after in vivo dilution assuming a $\rm K_d$ of 0.6 nM, an in vivo dilution of 20×, a molecular weight for FVIII (turoctocog alfa/N8) of 170000 g/mol, a specific activity of 10000 IU/mg for turoctocog alfa/N8, and a molecular weight for 4F30 of 150000 g/mol. Also, the PEGylated FVIII with K2092A+F2093A mutations displayed decreased uptake in cells but the mutations did not improve the bioavailability compared to N8-GP. Inhibition of cellular FVIII uptake does thus not appear to be the mechanism by which co-formulated VWF fragments result in increased s.c. bioavailability of FVIII.

Example 25

Subcutaneous Administration in New Zealand White Rabbits

Test compounds were formulated in 18 mg/ml NaCl, 3 mg/ml saccharose, 1.5 mg/ml L-histidine, 0.1 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.25 mg/ml CaCl₂, pH ~7.3. For test formulations containing VWF or VWF fragments the % FVIII bound by VWF was calculated using the available IC50 values (table 6) assuming $1C50=K_i=K_d$.

Female New Zealand white rabbits weighing approximately 2-3 kg were used for the study. The animals were allowed free access to feed and water. The rabbits were dosed subcutaneously over the thigh with FVIII in combination with various proteins, 4-5 rabbits with each test compound. The dose volume was 0.2 ml/kg or 1 ml/kg.

Blood was sampled at 11 time points from 0 to 96 h with n=4-5 rabbits/time point. At each sampling time point, 1 ml blood was sampled from an ear artery by use of a 21G needle and EDTA coated tubes. The tubes were centrifuged within 10 minutes after blood drawing at 4000 G for 5 minutes and plasma separated The samples were immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at -80° C. prior to analysis. The samples were analysed by FVIII antigen analysis using two FVIII light chain antibodies (4F45 and 4F11) in a FVIII LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channeling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data were analysed by non-compartmental analysis using WinNonlin Phoenix (Pharsight Corporation) estimating the given pharmacokinetic parameters. The bioavailability was estimated using pharmacokinetics of FVIII (turoctocog alfa/N8) and N8-GP administered i.v. to rabbits.

The obtained bioavailabilities are shown in table 8.

TABLE 8

		II IBEE 0			
FVIII	FVIII Dose/dose volume	co formulation protein	Molar ratio co- formulation protein:FVIII	Saturation FVIII with co- formulated protein (%)	F %
FVIII (turoctocog alfa/N8) + VWF	2000/0.2 ml/kg	TIL'/E'/D3/A1	3	99	6.2
N8-GP N8-GP + VWF N8-GP + VWF	700/0.2 ml/kg 700/0.2 ml/kg 500/1 ml/kg	— TIL'/E'/D3/A1 TIL'/E'/D3/A1	 3 3	99 82	40 59 34

hindering the passage of FVIII into the bloodstream. Likewise, Hirudin dosed to a level that inhibits thrombin activity in vivo did not affect bioavailability of N8-GP. Thrombin activation of FVIII does thus not appear to affect s.c. FVIII bioavailability.

The antibody 4F30 (further characterised in 65 WO2012035050), which bind to C1 and inhibits cellular uptake of FVIII, did not improve the bioavailability of N8-GP.

The s.c. bioavailability in rabbits of N8-GP and N8-GP co-formulated with VWF fragment TIL/E'/D3/A1 dosed in a dosing volume of 0.2 ml/kg was 40 and 59%, respectively. The bioavailability of N8-GP+VWF dosed in a dosing volume of 1 ml/kg was 34%. The bioavailability of N8-GP may thus be influenced either by the species or by the differences in dosing volumes (5 ml/kg in mice and 0.2 ml/kg or 1 ml/kg in rabbits). 0.2 ml/kg is closest to a dosing volume relevant for

humans. FVIII (turoctocog alfa/N8) dosed together with VWF fragment TIL'/E'/D3/A1 displayed a similar bioavailability in rabbits compared to mice despite the higher dosing concentration.

Example 26

Construction of Expression Vectors Encoding VWF Fragments

Plasmid #796 consisting of the pZEMHygro vector with 10 insert consisting of wild-type human VWF cDNA was utilized as the starting point for generating DNA constructs for the expression of truncated human VWF proteins.

DNA encoding the VWF signal peptide, followed by the VWF TIL'E' domain, the VWF D3 domain, the VWF A1 15 domain, and a HPC4 tag was generated by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using plasmid #796 as template, forward primer oLLC089 VWF forward, and reverse primer oLLC092 VWF A1 HPC4 reverse. These primers contain a Nhe I and a Not I restriction site, respectively. The resulting 20 PCR product was inserted into the pCR2.1-TOPO vector (Invitrogen). From here the VWF(TIL'/E'/D3/A1)-HPC4 coding DNA was excised with the Nhe I and a Not I restriction enzymes and inserted into pZEM219b digested with the same restriction enzymes. Thus, the pLLC089 construct was established consisting of pZEM219b with insert encoding VWF (TIL'/E'/D3/A1)-HPC4.

Nucleotide substitutions leading to the amino acid replacements C1099/1142S in the VWF VWF(TIL'/E'/D3/A1)-HPC4 protein encoded by pLLC089 were introduced by site-directed mutagenesis of pLCC089 using the QuikChange XL Site-directed Mutagenesis kit (Stratagene) and the oLLC101-f, oLLC102-r, oLLC103-f, and oLLC104-r mutagenesis primers. The site directed mutagenesis gave rise to the pLLC095 vector consisting of pZEM219b with insert encoding VWF (TIL'/E'/D3/A1)C1099/1142S-HPC4.

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BHK cell line producing VWF (TIL'/E'/D3/A1)C1099/1142S-HPC4. The cells were seeded in a biofermentor and the VWF (TIL'/E'/D3/A1)C1099/1142S-HPC4 protein was purified from the cell culture supernatant as described in Example 22.

CHO-DUKX-B11 suspension cells grown in suspension were transfected with pLLC095 by electroporation. A pool of transfected cells was generated by adaptation to growth in medium without nucleosides. Subsequently, the pool was adapted to growth in the presence of 100 mM methotrexate giving rise to the VWF (TIL'/E'/D3/A1)C1099/1142S-HPC4 producing non-clonal CHO-DUKX-B11 cell line MBML001. The cells were seeded in a biofermentor and the VWF (TIL'/E'/D3/A1)C1099/1142S-HPC4 protein was purified from the cell culture supernatant as described in Example 22

Example 28

VWF Fragments Protects FVIII Against Cellular Uptake The effect of plasma-derived (pd) VWF and fragments of VWF on FVIII cellular uptake is evaluated in human monocyte-derived macrophages or dendritic cells, which both are antigen presenting cells, or U87 MG cells. U87 MG cells are obtained from ATCC (HTB-14). The cells are cultured in fibronectin-coated 24-well plates for 48 hours in EMEM supplemented with 10% heat inactivated FCS at 37° C. in 5% CO₂ The cells are carefully washed with buffer A (10 mM HEPES, 150 mM NaCl, 4 KCl, 11 mM Glucose, pH 7.4) and incubated for 15 min with buffer B (buffer A supplemented with 5 mM CaCl₂ and 1 mg/ml BSA). Radioactively labelled FVIII (125 I-FVIII, final concentration 1 nM) is incubated alone or premixed with different concentrations of pdVWF (American Diagnostica, final concentration 0.001 nM-50 nM based on monomer content) or TIL'/E'/D3/A1 (final concentration 0.25 nM -500 nM or 1000 nM) 10 min prior to addition

TABLE 9

Oligon	ucleotide primers used for generating VWF fragment coding DNA contructs
Primer name	Primer sequence (5'-3')
oLLC089 VWF forward	CCGCTAGCCCATGATTCCTGCCAGATTTGCCGGGGTGCTGCTTGTTCT GGCCCTCATTTTGCCAGGGACCCTTTGTAGCCTATCCTGTCGGCCCCCC ATG (SEQ ID NO 39)
oLLC092 VWF A1 HPC4 reverse	GATGCGGCCGCCTACTACTATTTGCCATCAATCAGACGCGGATCCACCT GATCTTCGGCTTCAGGGGCAAGGTCACAGAGGTAGC (SEQ ID NO 40)
oLLC101-f	CATTGGGGACTGCGCCTCCTTCTGCGACACCATTGCTGCC (SEQ ID NO 41)
oLLC102-r	GGCAGCAATGGTGTCGCAGAAGGAGGCGCAGTCCCCAATG (SEQ ID NO 42)
oLLC103-f	CGGGAGAACGGGTATGAGTCTGAGTGGCGCTATAACAGCTGTGC (SEQ ID NO 43)
oLLC104-r	GCACAGCTGTTATAGCGCCACTCAGACTCATACCCGTTCTCCCG (SEQ ID NO 44)

Example 27

Stable Cell Lines Expressing VWF Fragments

Baby hamster kidney (BHK) cells grown in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium with 10% fetal calf serum were transfected with pLL095 using Genejuice transfection 65 reagent (Merck). A pool of transfected cells was generated by selection with 1.5 M methotrexate giving rise to a non-clonal

to the U87 MG cells and incubated with the cells 1 hour at 37° C. to allow binding and internalization. Cells are subsequently washed three times with ice-cold buffer B. Surface bound proteins are cleaved off by incubating the cells in PBS containing 100 µg/ml trypsin, 50 µg/ml proteinase K, 5 mM
 EDTA (pH 7.4) for 1 hour on ice. The detached cells are transferred to tubes and centrifuged to pellet the cells. The supernatant representing the cell bound FVIII is transferred to

new tubes. The radioactivity in tubes with the supernatants (bound FVIII) and cell pellets (internalized FVIII) are quantified in a gamma counter, and values calculated in FVIII concentration by using a standard curve based on ¹²⁵I-FVIII. Bound ¹²⁵I-FVIII in the absence of VWF are set to 100%.

Dendritic cells and macrophages are differentiated from monocytes isolated from buffy coats by magnetic separation using magnetic anti-CD14-beads (Miltenyi Biotec) and a MACS column (Miltenyi Biotec) according to the manufactures instructions. Monocytes $(0.5 \times 10^6 \text{ cells/ml})$ are seeded in T-75 tissue culture flasks and cultured in IMDM media (GIBCO) containing 10% FBS, 1% penicillin/streptomycin and 3.3 ng/ml M-CSF (R&D Systems) in order to differentiate the cells into macrophages. Additional 3.3 ng/ml M-CSF is added after three days of culturing. The monocytes can alternatively be differentiated into dendritic cells by stimulating with 40 ng/ml GM-CSF (R&D Systems) and 40 ng/ml IL-4 for five days. Dendritic cells are washed in buffer B and transferred to low binding Nunc tubes with 0.5×10⁶ cells/ tube. Fluorescently labelled FVIII, e.g. Oregon-Green FVIII (e.g. 30 and 100 nM) are added and incubated 1 hour at 37° C. 20 Cells are washed once and analysed by flow cytometry using a LRS Fortessa instrument (BD). The macrophages are after six days culturing washed with PBS and incubated 10-20 min at 4° C. with 2.5 mM EDTA in PBS with 5% FCS to detach cells. Macrophages (7×10⁵/well) are seeded on fibronectin- 25 coated 96-well glass bottom tissue culture plates (Perkin Elmer ViewPlate Black). 24 hours post seeding the cells are washed once with buffer B before addition of 30 nM fluorescently-labelled FVIII (e.g. OregonGreen-FVIII) alone or in the presence of increasing concentrations (15-240 nM) of pdVWF (American Diagnostica) or TIL'/E'/D3/A1. Macrophages are incubated for 1 hour at 37° C. Subsequently, cells are washed twice with buffer B to remove non-internalized material before addition of PBS containing 2.5 μg/ml Hoechst33342 (Molecular Probes) to visualize the cell nuclei. The plate is then immediately imaged on the Operetta® High Content Screening system (Perkin Elmer, Hamburg) in widefield fluorescence mode using the 20x high NA objective. Ten fields per well are imaged and analysed. The approach to image analysis in the Harmony® software is based on counting nuclei (Hoechst channel), followed by 40 texture analysis (FVIII channel) using the "find particle" method to detect vesicular FVIII. Dead or apoptotic cells are excluded from the analysis based on nuclei fragmentation and/or excessive binding of FVIII to the plasma membrane. In order to quantify the internalized FVIII the integrated fluo- 45 rescent intensity of the vesicular FVIII signal is calculated and plotted against time.

IC50 values for inhibition of FVIII binding and internalization in U87 MG cells and macrophages are shown in table 10. Both pdVWF and TIL/E/D3/A1 are able to inhibit FVIII cell binding/uptake in both cell types providing sufficient high concentrations are used. As uptake in antigen presenting cells is the initial step in presenting FVIII to the immune system, the data may indicate that a reduced immune response can be achieved upon co-formulation of FVIII with a VWF fragment.

TABLE 10

Effect of pdVWF and TIL'/E'/D3/A1 fragment on FVIII binding and
internalization in U87 MG cells and uptake in macrophages.

	IC50) (nM)	Maximal inhibition (%)			
Cell type	pdVWF	TIL'/ E'/D3/A1	pdVWF	TIL'/ E'/D3/ A 1		
U87 (n = 3-4) Binding	1.2 ± 0.9	17.6 ± 13.0	34.3 ± 4.2	39.8 ± 7.8		

TABLE 10-continued

Effect of pdVWF and TIL'/E'/D3/A1 fragment on FVIII binding and	b
internalization in U87 MG cells and uptake in macrophages.	

	IC50) (nM)	Maximal inhibition (%)			
Cell type	pdVWF	TIL'/ E'/D3/A1	pdVWF	TIL'/ E'/D3/A1		
U87 (n = 3-4) Internalization	1.3 ± 1.2	22.1 ± 19.2	32.2 ± 7.0	41.2 ± 11.5		
Macrophages (n = 3)	15.6 ± 3.5	31.5 ± 6.1	32.6 ± 11.4	47.2 ± 11.7		

Example 29

Efficacy of FVIII Compounds Co-Formulated with VWF Variants after Subcutaneous Dosing:

FVIII deficient, FVIII-KO mice, 12-16 weeks old, male and females are divided into 3 groups of 12 animals. In each group, eight animals are subjected to tail bleeding and 4 animals are used in parallel for ex vivo efficacy testing using ROTEM analysis.

GlycoPEGylated FVIII or vehicle is dosed s.c. 24 hr prior to tail transection. As a positive control glycoPEGylated FVIII is dosed i.v. 5 min prior to injury. The s.c injection is performed in the neck and the i.v. injection in a lateral tail vein. The dose volume is 5 ml/kg.

GlycoPEGylated FVIII is prepared in buffer (10 mM L-Histidine, 8.8 mM Sucrose, 0.01% Polysorbate 80, 308 mM NaCl, 1.7 mM CaCl₂ (dihydrate), 0.01% Polysorbate 80 0.1 mg/ml, pH 6.9) to a concentration of 40 and 500 IU/ml and stored at -80° C. until use.

Before tail transection, the mice are anaesthetised with isoflurane and placed on a heating pad. The tails are placed in pre-heated saline at 37° C. for 10 min. The tail is transected 4 mm from the tip.

Immediately before tail transection a 20 µl blood sample is drawn from the peri-orbital plexus for FVIII determination.

Blood is collected over 30 min and the haemoglobin concentration determined by spectrophotometry at 550 nm.

Parallel animals are used for blood sampling and subsequent analysis of their clotting parameters (ex vivo efficacy). A blood sample is taken from the peri-orbital plexus with 20 μL capillary tubes without additive. The blood sample is diluted 1:10 in 0.13M sodium citrate and carefully mixed and stored at rum temperature for immediate thromboelastography by ROTEM. The blood sample is re-calcified by adding 7 μL CaCl $_2$ to a mini curvet (StarTEM). Thereafter, 105 μL of blood is added to the mini curvet and mixed. The analysis is performed until the maximum amplitude is reached.

Results:

The prophylactic effect of s.c. administered FVIII is determined by comparing the blood loss during the 30 min study period at 24 hr after s.c. administration to that of 1) a vehicle control group and 2) an i.v. control group with glycoPEGylated FVIII. The blood loss in the group dosed s.c. with glycoPEGylated FVIII is comparable to the blood loss in the group dosed i.v. (FIG. 10, left panel). The blood loss data are supported by the ex vivo efficacy parallel study of the examined clotting parameters, e.g. clot time (FIG. 10, right panel).

In conclusion, subcutaneously administered FVIII appear 65 to be hemostatically active based on the PK profile and the results from the ex vivo activity. Therefore, subcutaneously administered FVIII co-formulated with a VWF fragment is

also believed to be hemostatically active as can be predicted from its pharmacokinetic profile.

Example 30

Effect of s.c. Administered FVIII±VWF Fragments in FVIII-Deficient Mice.

Test Compounds: Test compounds are prepared in 10 mM L-Histidine (1.55 mg/ml), 8.8 mM Sucrose (3.0 mg/ml), 308 mM NaCl (18 mg/ml), 1.7 mM CaCl2 dihydrate (0.25 10 mg/ml), 0.01% Polysorbate 80 (0.1 mg/ml), pH 7.3.

Animals: Experiments are performed using groups of F8 knockout (FVIII k/o) mice (129/C57BL/6 or C57BL/6, exon 16 disrupted). Animals are included in experiments when 12-18 weeks old at which time they are weighing roughly 18-25 grams. Twelve to 15 animals are included per group.

Administration of test compounds: Test compounds are administered subcutaneously (or intravenously for controls) using a dose volume of maximally 10 ml/kg (or 5 ml/kg for controls).

Bleeding Model: A tail vein transection (TVT) bleeding model is conducted with the mice under full isoflurane anaesthesia. Briefly, following anaesthesia the bleeding challenge comprises a template-guided transection of a lateral tail vein at a tail diameter of 2.7 mm. The tail is immersed in 25 in other species to verify effect after subcutaneous adminissaline at 37° C. allowing visual recording of the bleeding for 60 min, where after the blood is isolated and the blood loss determined by measuring the haemoglobin concentration as described in "Example 3". When feasible and justified, blood is sampled for assessment of FVIII activity (FVIII:C) in 30 plasma as described above.

Dose Response: Different doses of FVIII or FVIII coformulated with VWF fragments (e.g. N8-GP/VWF) are injected subcutaneously at defined time point(s) prior to TVT. Vehicle and intravenous control/treatment groups are 35 included for no effect and maximal effect, respectively.

Duration of Action: FVIII or FVIII/VWF is injected s.c. to identify prolonged effect, i.e. improved bleeding phenotype after treatment. TVT is performed at several time points, e.g. 24, 48, 72, 96, after dosing.

Repeated Dose: FVIII or FVIII/VWF fragment is dosed s.c. once daily for several days. TVT is performed at different time points to assess any improvement in the bleeding phenotype.

Data Processing and Analyses: Data are physically 45 recorded throughout the experiment. Hereafter, data are aggregated for analysis using MS Excel (Microsoft, Wash., USA) before being analysed in GraphPad Prism version 5 (GraphPad Software, Inc, CA, USA).

Example 31

Effect of s.c. FVIII±VWF Fragments in Other FVIII-Deficient Species.

Additional pharmacodynamic experiments are conducted 55 in other species to verify effect after subcutaneous administration in non-murine animal models of haemophilia A, e.g. rat and dog. FVIII or FVIII/VWF are injected subcutaneously before assessing ex vivo effect, before inducing a bleeding challenge, or as a means to treat or prevent spontaneous 60

Test Compounds: Test compounds are prepared in 10 mM L-Histidine (1.55 mg/ml), 8.8 mM Sucrose (3.0 mg/ml), 308 mM NaCl (18 mg/ml), 1.7 mM CaCl2 dihydrate (0.25 mg/ml), 0.01% Polysorbate 80 (0.1 mg/ml), pH 7.3.

Animals: Experiments are performed in adolescent rats (~12 weeks old) or dogs (6+ months old) with haemophilia A.

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Administration of test compounds: Test compounds are administered subcutaneously (or intravenously for controls) using a dose volume of maximally 10 ml/kg (or 5 ml/kg for

Dog effect model: In dogs with haemophilia A the effect is assessed ex vivo using surrogate markers, e.g. thrombelastography as previously described (Knudsen et al, 2011; Haemophilia, 17, 962-970), or in vivo, e.g. using a standardized bleeding challenge monitored by acoustic force radiation force impulse (ARFI) ultrasound as described (Scola et al, 2011; Ultrasound in Med. & Biol., 37(12), 2126-2132). Capacity allowing, test compound are administered to treat spontaneously bleeding dogs. Effect is monitored by assessing the resolution of clinical manifestation in comparison with historic data on i.v. treatment.

Rat effect model: In rats with haemophilia A the effect is assessed ex vivo using surrogate markers, e.g. thrombelastography as described above for mice and dogs, or in vivo, e.g. using a standardized bleeding challenge as described for mice. Capacity allowing, test compound are administered to treat spontaneously bleeding rats. Effect is monitored by assessing the resolution of clinical manifestation in comparison with historic data on i.v. treatment.

Additional pharmacodynamic experiments are conducted tration in non-murine animal models of haemophilia A, e.g. rat and dog.

Example 32

Construction of Expression Vectors Encoding VWF Frag-

A nucleotide substitution leading to the amino acid replacement S1142C in the VWF(764-1250)-C1099/1142S-ALA-HPC4 protein encoded by pJSV348 described in Example 17 was introduced by PCR-based site-directed mutagenesis using the VWF 1099C S and VWF 1099C AS primers (Table P). This gave rise to the pGB237 vector consisting of pTT5 with insert encoding VWF(764-1250)-C1099S-ALA-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 11). The cysteine at position 1142 allows dimerization of the protein as described in Example 20.

Likewise, a nucleotide substitution leading to the amino acid replacement S1099C in the VWF(764-1250)-C1099/ 1142S-ALA-HPC4 protein encoded by pJSV348 described in Example 17 was introduced by PCR-based site-directed mutagenesis using the VWF 1142C S and VWF 1142C AS primers (Table P). This gave rise to the pGB238 vector consisting of pTT5 with insert encoding VWF(764-1250)-50 C1142S-ALA-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 11). The cysteine at position 1099 allows dimerization of the protein as described in Example 20.

In a similar manner, the S1099C amino acid replacement was introduced in the VWF(764-1128)-C1099S-HPC4 protein encoded by pJSV406 described in Example 18, giving rise to the pGB249 vector consisting of pTT5 with insert encoding VWF(764-1128)-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 9). The cysteine at position 1099 allows dimerization of the protein as described in Example 20.

cDNA encoding amino acid 1-1250 of human VWF was amplified by PCR using plasmid #796 (described in Example 26) as template, forward primer JP1000 VWF-HindIII S (Table 2), and reverse primer JP1006 VWF764-1250 (Table 2). Primer JP1006 VWF764-1250 contains a Nhe I site. The resulting PCR product was inserted into the pCR4BLUNT-TOPO vector (Invitrogen) downstream of Pme I restriction site. From here, the vWF(1-1250) coding DNA was excised

with the Pme I and a Nhe I restriction enzymes and inserted into pJSV164 described in Example 17 generating the pGB242 vector consisting of pTT5 with insert encoding vWF (1-1250)-ALA-HPC4. The cysteines at position 1099 and 1142 allow dimerization of the protein as described in 5 Example 20, and proteolytic removal of the presequence will generate vWF(764-1250)-ALA-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 11).

DNA sequences of pJSV348 (described in Example 17) and construct #796 (described in Example 26) were inverse amplified by PCR using overlapping primers. The pJSV348 10 sequence was amplified using primer 2764pJSV348 and 1202pJSV348R (Table P), while the construct #796 sequence was amplified using primer 221#796F and 3537#796R (Table P). The amplification products from pJSV348 (recipient) and construct #796 (donor) were excised from an agarose gel and 15 joined by ligation independent cloning (LIC) using the In-Fusion HD Cloning Kit (Clontech) to generate circular DNA and subsequently transformed into Stellar competent cells (Clontech). The resulting expression vector, named pGB252 consists of PTT5 with insert encoding VWF(1-1128)-ALA- 20 HPC4. The cystein at position 1099 allows dimerization of the protein as described in Example 20, and proteolytic removal of the presequence will generate vWF(764-1128)-ALA-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 9).

Likewise, amplification using pJSV348 (described in 25 Example 17) as template with the primers 2764pJSV348 and 1202pJSV348R (Table P) and amplification using #796 (described in Example 26) as template with the primers 221#796F and 3747#796R (Table P) generated pJSV348 (recipient) and construct #796 (donor) amplification products 30 that were also excised from an agarose gel and joined by

ligation independent cloning (LIC) using the In-Fusion HD Cloning Kit (Clontech) to generate circular DNA and subsequently transformed into Stellar competent cells (Clontech). The resulting expression vector, named pGB253 consists of PTT5 with insert encoding VWF(1-1198)-ALA-HPC4. The cysteines at position 1099 and 1142 allow dimerization of the protein as described in Example 20, and proteolytic removal of the presequence will generate vWF(764-1198)-ALA-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 10).

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In a similar manner, DNA sequences of pJSV348 (described in Example 17) and construct #796 (described in Example 26) were inverse amplified by PCR using overlapping primers. The pJSV348 sequence was amplified using primer 2764pJSV348 and 2420pJSV348R (Table 11), while the construct #796 sequence was amplified using primer 3666#796F and 5203#796R (Table P). The amplification products from pJSV348 (recipient) and construct #796 (donor) were excised from an agarose gel and joined by ligation independent cloning (LIC) using the In-Fusion HD Cloning Kit (Clontech) to generate circular DNA and subsequently transformed into Stellar competent cells (Clontech). The resulting expression vector, named pGB250 consists of PTT5 with insert encoding VWF(764-1873)-C1099/1142C-ALA-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 20).

Human VWF cDNA sequences amplified from construct #796 (described in Example 26) were combined generating the pLLC122 vector consisting of pZEM219b with insert encoding vWF (1-1464)-HPC4. The cysteines at position 1099 and 1142 allow dimerization of the protein as described in Example 20, and proteolytic removal of the presequence will generate vWF(764-1464)-HPC4 (SEQ ID NO 19).

TABLE 11

Oligor	nucleotide primers used for generating VWF fragment coding DNA constructs
Primer name	Primer sequence (5'-3')
VWF 1099C S	GGGGACTGCGCCTGCTTCTGCGACACC (SEQ ID NO 45)
VWF 1099C AS	GGTGTCGCAGAAGCAGGCGCAGTCCCC (SEQ ID NO 46)
VWF 1142C S	GAACGGGTATGAGTGTGAGTGGCGCTATA (SEQ ID NO 47)
VWF 1142C AS	TATAGCGCCACTCACACTCATACCCGTTC (SEQ ID NO 48)
2764pJSV348F	GCGCTAGCTGAGGACCAAGTAGATCCGCGGCTCATTGATGGG (SEQ ID NO 49)
1202pJSV348R	GGGCCAGAGCAGCACCCCGGCAAATCTGGCAGG (SEQ ID NO 50)
221#796F	CCTGCCAGATTTGCCGGGGTGCTGCTTGCTCTGGCCC (SEQ ID NO 51)
3537#796R	TACTTGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCCTGGGGGCACAATGTGGCCGTCCTCC (SEQ ID NO 52)
3747#796R	TACTTGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCCACTGGACAGTCTTCAGGGTCAACGC (SEQ ID NO 53)
2420pJSV348R	GGCTCAGGGTGCTGACACGTGACTTGACAGGCAGGTGC (SEQ ID NO 54)
3666#796F	GCACCTGCCTGTCAAGTCACGTGTCAGCACCCTGAGCC (SEQ ID NO 55)
5203#796R	TACTTGGTCCTCAGCTAGCGCTGCAGGGGAGAGGGTGGGGATCTGC (SEQ ID NO 56)

65 Example 33 66

Example 35

VWF Fragments Inhibit FVIII Uptake by Human Den-

Human monocyte-derived dendritic cells were prepared as described in example 28. Expression of the dendritic cell markers CD209 and CD86 were controlled by flow cytometry using a LRS Fortessa instrument (BD). Fluorescent labelled FVIII (Oregon green-FVIII, 30 nM final concentration) was 10 premixed with different concentrations of plasma-derived VWF or VWF fragments before incubating 1 h at 37° C. with dendritic cells. Live/Dead cell kit (Invitrogen #L10119, APC-Cy7) was used for gating on live dendritic cells, and FVIII uptake within this cell population was quantified. Data was normalized for each individual experiment. The signal in samples without VWF was defined as 100% FVIII uptake, and the signal in the sample with the highest concentration of plasma-derived VWF (240 nM based on monomer content) $_{20}$ was defined as 0%. Values from 3-5 experiments were combined and IC50 values calculated using non-linear regression in Prism software (log(inhibitor) vs. response-Variable slope (four parameters)). The resulting IC50 values are shown in table 12. The data show that all tested VWF fragments were 25 able to inhibit FVIII uptake by the dendritic cells provided sufficiently high concentrations are used. As FVIII uptake by antigen-presenting cells is the initial step in presenting FVIII to the immune system the data suggests that co-formulation 30 of FVIII with sufficiently high concentration of VWF fragment may have a potential in reducing immunogenicity of FVIII.

Administration of VWF Fragments to VWF Knockout

Test Compound:

Murine VWF Fragment TIL'/E'/D3/A1 1.829 nmol/ml, 0.015 mg/ml

The test compound was formulated in 20 mM imidazol 150 mM NaCl, 0.02% Tween 80, 1.1M Glycerol, 10 mM CaCl2, pH 7.3

6 VWF knockout mice, with an approximate weight of 25 g were dosed intravenously in the tail with 9.48 nmol/kg Murine VWF fragment TIL'/E'/D3/A1.

Blood was sampled pre-dose and at 0.08, 0.33, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 7, 18 and 24 h post administration in a sparse sample design with 2 mice sampled per time point. The mice were anaesthetized by Isoflurane/02/N20 prior to blood sampling via the retroorbital plexus. Three samples were taken from each mouse. Blood (45 µl) was stabilised with 5 µl of sodiumcitrate (0.13 M) and added 200 µl FVIII coatest SP buffer (50 mM TRIS-HCl, 1% BSA, Ciprofloxacin 10 mg/L, pH 7.3). After centrifugation at 4000 g for 5 minutes at room temperature, the supernatants were immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at -80° C. prior to analysis.

Samples were analysed with regards to FVIII concentration in an antigen LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channeling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data were analysed relatively to the predose values.

The relative mean FVIII concentration in time after dosing is shown in table 13

TABLE 12

Effect of plasma derived VWF and VWF fragments on FVIII uptake in dendritic cells.							
Domain/comment	VWF fragment sequence	IC50 (nM)*					
TIL'/E'/VWD3	VWF(764-1041)-ALA-HPC4 monomer	570 (400-820)					
TIL'/E'/D3	VWF(764-1250)-C1099/1142S-ALA-HPC4 monomer	31 (25-39)					
TIL'E'/D3/A1 monomer	VWF(764-1464)-C1099/1142S-HPC4 monomer	31 (18-52)					
TIL'E'/D3/A1 dimer Plasma-derived VWF	VWF(764-1464)-HPC4 dimer** VWF (764-2813)	16 (11-22) 9.8 (7.6-13)					

^{*}Best fit value and 95% confidence intervals of data from 3-5 experiments

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Example 34

Effect of s.c. FVIII±VWF Fragments in Animals with Inhibiting Antibodies Against FVIII.

The objective is to evaluate the potential of pharmaceutical 55 compositions to treat haemophilia A patients with inhibitors against FVIII. We dose FVIII alone or co-formulated with VWF-fragments subcutaneously to naïve FVIII-KO mice or FVIII-KO mice where inhibitors are induced by repeated subcutaneous or intravenous administrations of FVIII prior to 60 treatment with the compositions, or by injecting a polyclonal or monoclonal anti-FVIII antibody. The effect of the treatments is evaluated in anaesthetized mice after transection of a lateral tail vein. The tail is placed in pre-warmed saline at 37° C. and the bleeding is observed for 60 minutes. The blood loss 65 during the experiment is a measure of the effect of the composition.

TABLE 13

	of Murine D'D3A1 IV on concentration in VWF KO mice.
Time (h)	FVIII increase (% of predose)
0.08	174
0.33	190
0.5	176
1	163
2	274
4	250
7	330
18	225
24	207

FVIII concentration increased gradually in time after dosing of VWF fragment intravenously with a Tmax after 7

^{**}IC50 value based on molar concentration of the dimer, i.e. multiply IC50 with 2 to reflect IC50 value based on content of VWF monomer fragment.

hours. This finding supports the potential for VWF fragments for the treatment of VWF disease as well as haemophilic disorders.

Example 36

Interaction Mapping by HX-MS of vWF Fragments TIL'/ E'/D3/A1, TIL'/E'/D3, TIL'E, and TIL'/E'/VWD3 on Turoctocog Alfa (FVIII) and Turoctocog Alfa (FVIII) on vWF Fragment TIL'/E'/D3/A1

Introduction to HX-MS

The HX-MS technology exploits that hydrogen exchange (HX) of a protein can readily be followed by mass spectrometry (MS). By replacing the aqueous solvent containing hydrogen with aqueous solvent containing deuterium, incorporation of a deuterium atom at a given site in a protein will give rise to an increase in mass of 1 Da. This mass increase can be monitored as a function of time by mass spectrometry in quenched samples of the exchange reaction. The deuterium labelling information can be sub-localized to regions in the 20 protein by pepsin digestion under quench conditions and following the mass increase of the resulting peptides.

One use of HX-MS is to probe for sites involved in molecular interactions by identifying regions of reduced hydrogen exchange upon protein-protein complex formation. Usually, 25 binding interfaces will be revealed by marked reductions in hydrogen exchange due to steric exclusion of solvent. Protein-protein complex formation may be detected by HX-MS simply by measuring the total amount of deuterium incorporated in either protein members in the presence and absence of 30 the respective binding partner as a function of time. The HX-MS technique uses the native components, i.e., protein and antibody or Fab fragment, and is performed in solution. Thus HX-MS provides the possibility for mimicking the in vivo conditions (for a recent review on the HX-MS technol- 35 ogy, see Wales and Engen, Mass Spectrom. Rev. 25, 158 (2006)).

Materials

Protein batches used were:

FVIII protein batches used were:

FVIII (N8, Turoctocog alfa, SEQ ID NO 2) Batch 0155-0000-0004-37A

vWF Fragments

D'D3A1 (SEQ ID NO 19; Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser) Batch 0129-0000-0170-6B; 2304 (SEQ ID NO 5) Batch 45 0129-0000-2304-1B; 2307 (SEQ ID NO 8) Batch 0129-0000-2307-1B; 2308 (SEQ ID NO 11) Batch 0129-0000-

All proteins were buffer exchanged into 20 mM Imidazole, 500 mM NaCl, 10 mM CaCl2, adjusted to pH 7.3 before 50 experiments.

Methods: HX-MS Experiments

Instrumentation and Data Recording

The HX experiments were performed on a nanoACQUITY UPLC System with HDX Technology (Waters Inc.) coupled 55 to a Synapt G2 mass spectrometer (Waters Inc.). The Waters HDX system contained a Leap robot (H/D-x PAL; Waters Inc.) operated by the LeapShell software (Leap Technologies Inc/Waters Inc.), which performed initiation of the deuterium exchange reaction, reaction time control, quench reaction, 60 injection onto the UPLC system and digestion time control. The Leap robot was equipped with two temperature controlled stacks maintained at 20° C. for buffer storage and HX reactions and maintained at 2° C. for storage of protein and quench solution, respectively. The Waters HDX system fur- 65 thermore contained a temperature controlled chamber holding the pre- and analytical columns, and the LC tubing and

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switching valves at 1° C. A separately temperature controlled chamber holds the pepsin column at 25° C. For the inline pepsin digestion, 100 µL quenched sample containing 100 pmol hIL-21 was loaded and passed over a Poroszyme® Immobilized Pepsin Cartridge (2.1×30 mm (Applied Biosystems)) placed at 25° C. using a isocratic flow rate of 100 μL/min (0.1% formic acid:CH₃CN 95:5). The resulting peptides were trapped and desalted on a VanGuard pre-column BEH C18 1.7 μm (2.1×5 mm (Waters Inc.)). Subsequently, the valves were switched to place the pre-column in-line with the analytical column, UPLC-BEH C18 1.7 μm (1×100 mm (Waters Inc.)), and the peptides separated using a 8 min gradient of 8-45% B delivered at 120 µl/min from the nanoAQUITY UPLC system (Waters Inc.). The mobile phases consisted of A: 0.1% formic acid and B: 0.1% formic acid in CH₃CN. The ESI MS data and the separate elevated energy (MS^E) experiments were acquired in positive ion mode using a Synapt G2 mass spectrometer (Waters Inc.). Leucine-enkephalin was used as the lock mass ([M+H]⁺ ion at m/z 556.2771) and data was collected in continuum mode (For further description, see Andersen and Faber, Int. J. Mass Spec., 302, 139-148 (2011)).

Data Analysis

Peptic peptides were identified in separate experiments using standard MS^E methods where the peptides and fragments are further aligned utilizing the ion mobility properties of the Synapt G2 (Waters Inc.). MS^E data were processed using ProteinLynx Global Server version version 2.5 (Waters Inc.). The HX-MS raw data files were processed in the DynamX software (Waters Inc.). DynamX automatically performs the lock mass-correction and deuterium incorporation determination, i.e., centroid determination of deuterated peptides. Furthermore, all peptides were inspected manually to ensure correct peak and deuteration assignment by the soft-

Epitope Mapping Experiment

Amide hydrogen/deuterium exchange (HX) was initiated by a 10-fold dilution of FVIII in the presence or absence of vWF fragment, i.e., D'D3A1, 2308, 2307, or -2304 at time 0 into 20 mM Imidazole, 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM CaCl2, pH 7.3 (uncorrected value) at later time points into the corresponding deuterated buffer (i.e. 20 mM Imidazole, 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM CaCl2 prepared in D₂O, 98% D₂O final, pH 7.3 (uncorrected value)). All HX reactions were carried out at 20° C. and contained 3 µM FVIII in the absence or presence of 4.5 µM vWF fragment thus giving a 1.5 fold molar excess of vWF fragment binding partner. At appropriate time intervals ranging from 10 sec to 240 sec, 50 µl aliquots of the HX reaction were quenched by 50 µl ice-cold quenching buffer (1.36 M TCEP, 2 M urea) resulting in a final pH of 2.5 (uncorrected value).

Results and Discussion

Interaction Mapping of 2304 and 2307 on FVIII

The HX time-course of 191 peptides, covering 83% of the primary sequence of FVIII were monitored in the absence or presence of the vWF fragments 2304 or 2307 for i.e., 10, 20, 30, 40, 60, 120, and 240 sec.

The vWF fragments 2304 and 2307 both induce identical alterations in the exchange profile of FVIII and will be described together here. The observed exchange pattern in the time points (i.e., 10, 20, 30, 40, 60, 120, and 240 sec) in the presence or absence of 2304/2307 can be divided into different groups: One group of peptides display an exchange pattern that is unaffected by the binding of 2304/2307. In contrast, another group of peptides in FVIII show protection from exchange upon 2304/2307 binding.

70 unlikely that they can all be assig

The regions displaying protection upon 2304/2307 binding encompass peptides covering residues 1855-1875, 1857-1875, 2062-2070, 2125-2147, 2125-2148, 2127-2147, 2275-2291, 2275-2302, 2275-2305, 2292-2305, and 2293-2312 (Table 14). However, by comparing the relative amounts of exchange protection within each peptide upon binding 2304/2307 and the lack of epitope effects in overlapping and adjacent peptides in these regions, the regions that display reduced deuterium incorporation can be narrowed to residues 1862-1875, 2062-2070, 2125-2147, and 2285-2299.

Interaction Mapping of D'D3A1 and 2308 on FVIII

The HX time-course of 185 peptides, covering 79% of the primary sequence of FVIII were monitored in the absence or presence of the vWF fragments D'D3A1 or 2308 for 10, 20, 30, 40, 60, 120, and 240 sec.

The vWF fragments D'D3A1 and 2308 both induce identical alterations in the exchange profile of FVIII and will be described together here.

The regions displaying protection upon D'D3A1 or 2308 binding encompass peptides covering residues 1669-1680, 20 1738-1765, 1743-1765, 1856-1869, 1870-1874, 2061-2074, 2063-2074, 2123-2146, and 2260-2280 (Table 15).

However, by comparing the relative amounts of exchange protection within each peptide upon binding of D'D3A1 or 2308 and the lack of epitope effects in overlapping and adjacent peptides in these regions, the regions that display reduced deuterium incorporation can be narrowed to residues 1671-1680, 1745-1754, 1858-1874, 2063-2074, 2125-2146, 2262-2280.

Interaction Mapping of FVIII on D'D3A1

The HX time-course of 82 peptides, covering 58% of the primary sequence of vWF fragment D'D3A1 were monitored in the absence or presence of FVIII for 10, 20, 40, 60, 120, and 240 sec.

The region displaying exchange protection upon FVIII 35 binding encompass the peptide covering residues 768-778 (Table 16).

However, by comparing the relative amounts of exchange protection within each peptide upon binding FVIII and the lack of epitope effects in overlapping and adjacent peptides in 40 these regions, the regions that display reduced deuterium incorporation can be narrowed to residues 770-778.

Conclusion

Upon binding of either 2304 or 2307 all regions of FVIII showed similar responses. The same group of peptides were 45 affected by vWF fragment binding in the early time-points.

Furthermore, these affected regions identified for 2304/2307 binding were found to show overlap with affected regions upon binding to D'D3A1/2308 within domain A3 and C1 of FVIII.

Due to lacking sequence coverage of the peptic peptide map conducted to the HX-MS time course of 2304/2307 binding it was not possible to exchange characteristics for residues 1671-1680. Thus it was not possible to verify if 2304/2307 binding induces exchange protection to this 55 region as it was identified upon D'D3A1/2308 binding.

Upon binding of FVIII the regions covering residues 770-778 of D'D3A1 showed exchange protection. The obtained sequence coverage of 58% of D'D3A1 afforded by the peptic peptides conducted to HXMS analysis of FVIII binding, does 60 not allow to leave out that more interaction site are present within D'D3A1/2308.

Conclusion

The identified regions of FVIII showing protection upon binding to vWF fragments D'D3A1, 2308, 2304, or 2307 are 65 structurally situated at remote distances when mapping on to the crystal structure PDB: 2R7E. This makes it highly

unlikely that they can all be assigned to protection induced by binding interface between FVIII and the vWF fragments D'D3A1, 2308, 2304, or 2307. The HX-MS analysis is unable to distinguish between exchange protection induced by binding interface with exchange protections induced by rapid conformational changes.

Thus it is plausible that the observed regions showing exchange protection upon binding to vWF fragments D'D3A1, 2308, 2304, or 2307 are induced by both binding interface and conformational changes of FVIII.

The HXMS study of FVIII binding to vWF fragments D'D3A1, 2308, 2304, or 2307 revealed overlapping regions within domains A3 and C1, and therefore the complex binding to this part of FVIII is identical for the vWF fragments investigated.

The observed discrepancy in domain C2 hints that this part of FVIII undergoes conformational changes upon complex formation with the vWF-fragments. Furthermore, the obtained results hint that the truncation differences between D'D3A1/2308 and 2304/2307 induces different conformational changes of domain C2. In contrast the truncation difference between 2304 and 2307 does not seem to affect the conformational orientation of C2, since identical exchange profiles of domain C2 were observed for binding to these vWF-fragment species.

It is well known that the domains C1 and C2 are essential for the membrane binding affinity of FVIII. It can be speculated that conformational changes of these part of FVIII will reduce the membrane binding ability of FVIII. The conformational position of domains C1 and C2 of FVIII complex bound to the vWF fragments might be unfavourable for membrane binding affinity of FVIII. Furthermore, it is highly likely that the fragments in complex with FVIII will shield for the membrane binding affinity of FVIII as it has been established for the membrane binding characteristics of FVIII complex bound to endogenous vWF. A reduced membrane binding affinity of FVIII complex bound to the vWF fragments in comparison to free FVIII would lead to a reduced binding of FVIII to cell membranes of the immune system, e.g. antigen presenting cells. This could decrease presentation of FVIII-derived peptides on MHC class II and it can therefore be speculated that FVIII complex bound to vWF fragments will be less immunogenic than free FVIII.

TABLE 14

HXMS analysis of FVIII (Turoctocog alfa; seq. no. using wt FVIII) (SEQ ID 2) binding to the vWF fragments 2304 (SEQ ID 5) or 2307 (SEQ ID 8). After deuterium exchange reaction. FVIII is digested with pepsin yielding the present peptic peptides identified to show exchange protection in the presence of 2304 or 2307.

5 <u> </u>	Sequence	Domain	2304	2307	
	L1855-E1875	A3	EX	EX	
	V1857-E1875	A3	EX	EX	
	W2062-W2070	A3	EX	EX	
	V2125-R2147	C1	EX	EX	
	V2125-Y2148	C1	EX	EX	
)	F2127-R2147	C1	EX	EX	
	F2275-T2291	C2	EX	EX	
	F2275-L2302	C2	EX	EX	
	F2275-Y2305	C2	$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X}$	EX	
	P2292-Y2305	C2	EX	EX	
	V2293-S2312	C2	EX	EX	

EX: exchange protection of FVIII residues upon 2304 or 2307 binding indicating interaction region (40 sec incubation in D2O, >0.4 Da).

HXMS analysis of FVIII (Turoctocog alfa; seq. no. using wt FVIII) (SEQ ID 2) binding to the vWF fragments D'D3A1 (SEQ ID 19; Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser) or 2308 (SEQ ID 11; Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser). After deuterium exchange reaction. FVIII is digested with pepsin yielding the present peptides identified to show exchange protection in the presence of D'D3A1 or 2308.

Sequence	Domain	D'D3A1	2308	
S1669-Y1680	a3	EX	EX	
F1738-E1765	A3	EX	EX	
F1743-E1765	A3	$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X}$	EX	
L1856-R1869	A3	$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X}$	EX	
Q1870-Q1874	A3	EX	EX	
A2061-D2074	C1	EX	EX	
S2063-D2074	C1	EX	EX	
L2123-A2146	C1	EX	EX	
F2260-V2280	C2	EX	EX	

EX: exchange protection of FVIII residues upon D'D3A1 or 2308 binding indicating interaction region (40 sec incubation in D2O, >0.4 Da).

TABLE 16

HXMS analysis of vWF fragment D'D3A1 (SEQ ID 19; Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser) binding to the FVIII (Turoctocog alfa (SEQ ID 2). After deuterium exchange reaction. D'D3A1 is digested with pepsin yielding the present peptic peptide identified to show exchange protection in the presence of FVIII.

Sequence	Domain	FVIII	
R768-A778	D'	EX	

EX: exchange protection of D'D3A1 residues upon FVIII binding indicating interaction region (40 sec incubation in D2O, >0.4 Da).

Example 37

Complex Formation of FVIII (SEQ ID 2) with TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III (SEQ ID 19; Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser) and of FVIII (SEQ ID 2) with TIL'/E'/D3 II (SEQ ID 14; Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser) Analysed by SEC-UV.

Materials

Protein Batches Used were:

FVIII Protein Batches Used were:

FVIII (N8, Turoctocog alfa, SEQ ID NO 2) Batch 0155-0000-0004-37A; TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III (SEQ ID NO 19; 45 Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser) Batch 0129-0000-0170-6B; TIL'/E'/D3 II (SEQ ID 14; Cys1099Ser; Cys1142Ser) Batch 0129-0000-2309-1B.

Methods

Size-exclusion chromatography was performed on a Waters Biosuite 4.6×300 mm column using a flow rate of 0.3 ml/min and a running buffer of 155 mM NaCl, 10 mM Calciumacetat, 10% Isopropanol at 25° C. The absorbance of the effluent was monitored by a UV detector at 280 nm. SEC-UV characterization were performed of FVIII, TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III, TIL'/E'/D3 II, and 1:2 complexes of FVIII—TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III and of FVIII—TIL'/E'/D3 II. Samples of FVIII 10 μ M, TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III 20 μ M, TIL'/E'/D3 II 20 μ M, and in complex were prepared and 15 μ L were loaded on to the column.

Results and Conclusion

SEC-UV of the mixtures of FVIII—TIL'/E'/D3/A1 III and FVIII—TIL'/E'/D3 II showed significant fractions of the complex to elute intact from the column. The complex would be expected to elute a little earlier than FVIII; this was also observed in both cases.

Preparation of Dimer Form of VWF Fragment: 764-1242 (SEQ ID NO 57) and 764-1482 (SEQ ID NO 58)

In the native full length VWF molecule (SEQ ID NO 22) two cysteine residues in the N-terminal part of the molecule are supposed to participate in the dimerization/multimerization of VWF: Cys1099 and Cys1142.

In some cases, a dimeric form of the VWF fragments is wanted. This can be accomplished in several ways:

One method to accomplish dimer formation is to keep the two residues at position 1099 and position 1142 as cysteines. In order to make a recombinant dimeric molecule, the cDNA encoding the desired VWF fragment is including the presequence of VWF e.g. the D1D2 sequence of VWF (amino acid residues 23-763 of SEQ ID NO 22). This will, during synthesis in the golgi apparatus align two monomers of a given VWF fragment in a configuration allowing a dimeric molecule to be formed with two disulphide bonds in which Cys1099 in monomer 1 is connected to a Cys1099 in monomer 2 and Cys1142 in monomer 1 is connected to Cys1142 in monomer 2. The pre-sequence is cleaved of during secretion of the dimeric VWF protein.

Another method to accomplish dimer formation is to avoid the inclusion of the pre-sequence (amino acid residues 23-763 of SEQ ID NO 22) and simply let a recombinant VWF fragment with Cys in position 1099 and 1142 form a dimeric molecule. This can in principle result in a series of different dimers e.g.:

Cys1099-Cys1099/Cys1142-Cys1142 (two disulphide bonds—like above)

Cys1099-Cys1142/Cys1099-Cys1142 (two disulphide bonds)

Cys1099-Cys1099 (one disulphide bond)

Cys1142-Cys1142 (one disulphide bond)

Cys1099-Cys1142 (one disulphide bond)

Yet another method to accomplish dimer formation is to replace one of the cysteine residues 1099 or 1142 with other amino acid residues (e.g. Serine, Arginine).

If Cys1099 is replaced with a non-Cysteine residue, the molecule can form a dimer by establishment of a disulphide bond between Cys1142 in monomer 1 with Cys1142 in monomer 2.

If Cys1142 is replaced with a non-Cysteine residue, the molecule can form a dimer by establishment of a disulphide bond between Cys1099 in monomer 1 with Cys1099 in monomer 2.

The dimeric forms mentioned above are constructed either with or without the D1D2 pre-sequence of VWF (amino acid residues 23-763 of SEQ ID NO 22).

The different monomeric and dimeric forms will have different properties with regards to their binding to FVIII, their ease of production and their effect on bioavailability of FVIII when injected subcutaneously as a co-formulation.

Example 39

Purification and Characterisation of HPC4-Tagged VWF Fragments

Some VWF fragments are cloned and expressed with a C-terminal HPC4 tag: EDQVDPRLIDGK (SEQ ID NO 38). Sometimes an additional linker with the sequence of ALA is introduced between the VWF fragment and the HPC4 tag. After cloning, expression and cell culturing the cell media is added CaCl₂ to a final concentration of 1 mM. The media is passed over an anti-HPC4 column. The column is equilibrated with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM CaCl₂,

pH=7.5. After application of the cell media, the column is washed with 20 mM HEPES, 1M NaCl, 1 mM CaCl₂, pH=7.5 and the HPC4-tagged VWF fragment is subsequently eluted with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA, pH=7.5. The pool from the anti-HPC4 column is added 3 volumes of 5 water to reduce the conductivity and applied onto a Mono Q column. Prior to the application the Mono Q column is equilibrated with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA, pH=7.5. The Mono Q column is washed with 20 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl, pH=7.5 and the VWF fragment is eluted with a gradient from 100 mM NaCl to 2M NaCl in 20 mM HEPES, 10 mM CaCl₂, pH=7.5.

The purified protein is characterised by 1) SDS-gel electrophoreses, 2) analytical HPLC and 3) amino acid sequence analysis.

Example 40

Purification and Characterisation of Non HPC4-Tagged VWF Fragment

After cloning, expression and cell culturing the cell media is passed over an anti-VWF-Sepharose column. This column consists of an antibody against the N-terminal part of VWF coupled to Sepharose. The antibody is characterised by binding to the VWF fragment at neutral pH but not binding the 25 VWF fragment at week acid pH. This allow the VWF fragment to be bound when passing cell culture media over the column at neutral pH. Hereafter the column is washed with a buffer at neutral pH where after the VWF fragment is eluted from the column with a buffer at a week acid pH (e.g. pH in 30 the range from 3.0 to 6.5). The eluted VWF fragment is further purified by a combination classical purification steps such as ion-exchange chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography and gelfiltration.

The purified VWF fragment is characterised by 1) SDS-gel 35 electrophoreses, 2) analytical HPLC and 3) amino acid sequence analysis.

Example 41

Bioavailability of a FVIII after Subcutaneous (s.c.) Administration Co-Formulated with VWF Fragment

A FVIII compound e.g. GlycoPEGylated FVIII, i.e. "N8-GP" (prepared essentially as disclosed in example 1+2 in WO2009108806) or another conjugated or non-conjugated 45 FVIII at 2000 IU/ml or 1.2 μM is co-formulated with VWF fragment 764-1242 or 764-1482 at a concentration that enables the majority of FVIII to be bound to a VWF fragment compound in the injection composition. The binding of the VWF fragment to FVIII and the % saturation of the FVIII can 50 be determined from the concentration of FVIII and VWF fragment in the composition and from experiments evaluating the binding affinity of the VWF fragment to the FVIII compound such as e.g. surface plasmon resonance experiments.

Test compounds are formulated in 18 mg/ml NaCl, 3 55 mg/ml saccharose, 1.5 mg/ml L-histidine, 0.1 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.25 mg/ml CaCl₂, pH 7.3. FVIII KO mice, exon 16 knock-out in a mixed background of C57Bl/6 and SV129, bred at Taconic M&B (B6.129S4-F8tm1Kaz/J) with an approximate weight of 22 g are dosed subcutaneously in the 60 incomplete Freund's adjuvant (IFA). flank with 10000 U/kg FVIII or FVIII/VWF, 6 mice per test compound. Blood are sampled at 1, 3, 7, 17, 24, 30, 48, 72 and 96 h post administration. The mice are anaesthetized by isoflurane/O₂/N₂O prior to blood sampling via the retroorbital plexus. Three samples are taken from each mouse. Blood (45 μl) are stabilised with 5 μl of sodium-citrate (0.13 M) and added 200 µl FVIII Coatest SP buffer (50 mM TRIS-HCl, 1%

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BSA, Ciprofloxacin 10 mg/L, pH 7.3). After centrifugation at 4000 g for 5 minutes at room temperature are supernatants immediately frozen on dry ice before storage at -80° C. prior to analysis. FVIII activity is measured in a chromogenic assay as described by Øvlisen K et al. J. Thromb. Haemost, 2008, 6: 969-975 and FVIII antigen is analysed using two FVIII light chain antibodies (4F45 and 4F11) in a FVIII LOCI assay (Luminescence oxygen channelling immunoassay).

Mean plasma concentration versus time data are analysed by non-compartmental analysis using WinNonlin Phoenix (Pharsight Corporation) estimating the given pharmacokinetic parameters. The bioavailability is estimated by comparing the AUC/dose after s.c. administration with AUC/dose after i.v. administration of the FVIII compound in FVIII KO mice.

Example 42

Immunogenicity of VWF Fragments

The immunogenicity of VWF fragment 764-1242 or 764-1482 relative to other VWF fragments and full-length VWF is evaluated in a species capable of ADAM28-mediated cleavage of VWF, e.g. mice.

ADAM28 (A Disintegrin And Metalloproteinase Domain 28) has been described to cleave VWF (Mochizuki et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2012; 104: 906-922) and is according to GeneCard® expressed on lymphocytes.

The relative immunogenicity is evaluated from the titer of VWF binding antibodies at certain time points after administration of VWF fragment 764-1242 or 764-1482 and comparator VWF fragments, e.g. VWF 764-1464 or full-length VWF. The assay for detection of VWF binding antibodies is a radioimmunoassay (RIA). Briefly, anti-VWF antibodies from a sample bind to radioactive ¹²⁵I-labelled VWF (fulllength or fragments). Immunoglobulin and immune complexes bind to protein G-sepharose and is precipitated by centrifugation. The radioactivity in the precipitate is measured and this is proportional to the amount of anti-VWF antibodies in the sample. The result is expressed in percent of the total amount of added radioactivity. i.e. as % bound/total (% B/T).

The appearance of anti-VWF antibodies is evaluated after repeated (e.g. once weekly for 4 weeks or once daily for three weeks) s.c. or i.v. administration of the compounds in naïve mice, in VWF k/o mice as well as in mice tolerized to human VWF. Mice are injected weekly for e.g. eight weeks s.c. or i.v. with e.g. 1 μg VWF or the corresponding molar concentration (based on monomer content) of VWF fragments. The readout is the ratio of animals with positive titres at certain time points after the first and/or the last administration (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 weeks). VWF k/o mice are injected weekly e.g. with VWF fragment or full-length VWF. For daily s.c. administration, the VWF dose is lower and based upon the bioavailability of the VWF fragment. Mice tolerized to hVWF are injected weekly for e.g. eight weeks s.c. with e.g. 1 µg VWF (or the corresponding molar concentration (based on monomer content) of VWF fragments). In some experiments the VWF is combined with complete Freund's adjuvant (CFA) for the first injection followed by weekly challenges by

Example 43

FVIII Degradation: Determination of FVIII Free Light Chain by Size-Exclusion Chromatography (SEC)

The dissociation of the rFVIII compound into free heavy and light chains is evaluated by a SEC method. The column is

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Sepax ZenixTM SEC-300 and the eluent is 10 mM Tris, 10 mM CaCl₂, 300 mM NaCl and 5% isopropanol, pH 7.0 Degradation of Factor VIII molecules is observed in SEC as appearance of a peak with longer elution times than monomeric Factor VIII. This peak has been assigned to free Light Chain ⁵ (free LC).

Example 44

Stabilising Effect of vWF on Liquid FVIII Stability.

Formulations of Glycopegylated B-domain truncated/deleted FVIII ("GP-BDD-FVIII") with and without a vWF fragment were prepared. The vWF fragment was VWF(764-1464)—C1099/1142S (SEQ ID NO 19), with a C-terminal HPC4-tag added to facilitate purification. Both formulations contained about 0.85 μ M GP-BDD-FVIII, 190 mM NaCl, 1.8 mM CaCl $_2$, 0.03 mg/ml polysorbate 80, 0.07 mg/ml Methionine, 10 mM sucrose, 12 mM Histidine and had a pH close to 6.9. One of the formulations furthermore contained 1.2 μ M of a vWF fragment. The two samples were incubated for 4 weeks at 5° C. and assayed for free Light Chain by SEC chromatopgraphy. In order to test for the influence of the vWF

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on the chromatopgraphy of GP-BDD-FVIII, the samples without vWF fragment was split in two after the 4 weeks of incubation, and one of the resulting samples had vWF fragment added to a final concentration of 1.2 μ M just prior to analysis. The amount of free Light Chain measured in the different samples is shown in the following table:

TABLE 17

GP-BDD-FVIII concentration	vWF fragment concentration during incubation	vWF fragment added just before SEC analysis	% free Light Chain after 4 weeks at 5° C.
0.85 μM	1.2 μΜ	_	1.1%
0.85 μM	_	_	5.1%
0.85 μM	_	1.2 μΜ	4.5%

It is seen that much less free Light Chain is observed after incubation with the vWF fragment. Addition of vWF just prior to analysis does not affect the result much, which shows that the effect is not a chromatographic artefact, but results from a stabilising action of the vWF fragment on GP-BDD-FVIII.

SEQUENCE LISTING

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200

205

195

His	Ser 210	Glu	Thr	ГÀв	Asn	Ser 215	Leu	Met	Gln	Asp	Arg 220	Asp	Ala	Ala	Ser
Ala 225	Arg	Ala	Trp	Pro	Lys 230	Met	His	Thr	Val	Asn 235	Gly	Tyr	Val	Asn	Arg 240
Ser	Leu	Pro	Gly	Leu 245	Ile	Gly	СЛа	His	Arg 250	Lys	Ser	Val	Tyr	Trp 255	His
Val	Ile	Gly	Met 260	Gly	Thr	Thr	Pro	Glu 265	Val	His	Ser	Ile	Phe 270	Leu	Glu
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Ile	Gln 370	Ile	Arg	Ser	Val	Ala 375	Lys	Lys	His	Pro	380 Lys	Thr	Trp	Val	His
Tyr 385	Ile	Ala	Ala	Glu	Glu 390	Glu	Asp	Trp	Asp	Tyr 395	Ala	Pro	Leu	Val	Leu 400
Ala	Pro	Asp	Asp	Arg 405	Ser	Tyr	Lys	Ser	Gln 410	Tyr	Leu	Asn	Asn	Gly 415	Pro
Gln	Arg	Ile	Gly 420	Arg	Lys	Tyr	Lys	Lys 425	Val	Arg	Phe	Met	Ala 430	Tyr	Thr
Asp	Glu	Thr 435	Phe	Lys	Thr	Arg	Glu 440	Ala	Ile	Gln	His	Glu 445	Ser	Gly	Ile
Leu	Gly 450	Pro	Leu	Leu	Tyr	Gly 455	Glu	Val	Gly	Asp	Thr 460	Leu	Leu	Ile	Ile
Phe 465	ГЛа	Asn	Gln	Ala	Ser 470	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asn	Ile 475	Tyr	Pro	His	Gly	Ile 480
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His	Leu	Lys	Asp 500	Phe	Pro	Ile	Leu	Pro 505	Gly	Glu	Ile	Phe	Lys 510	Tyr	Lys
Trp	Thr	Val 515	Thr	Val	Glu	Asp	Gly 520	Pro	Thr	Lys	Ser	Asp 525	Pro	Arg	Сув
Leu	Thr 530	Arg	Tyr	Tyr	Ser	Ser 535	Phe	Val	Asn	Met	Glu 540	Arg	Asp	Leu	Ala
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Arg	Phe	Leu 595	Pro	Asn	Pro	Ala	Gly 600	Val	Gln	Leu	Glu	Asp	Pro	Glu	Phe
Gln	Ala 610	Ser	Asn	Ile	Met	His 615	Ser	Ile	Asn	Gly	Tyr 620	Val	Phe	Asp	Ser

Leu 625	Gln	Leu	Ser	Val	630 CAa	Leu	His	Glu	Val	Ala 635	Tyr	Trp	Tyr	Ile	Leu 640
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Thr	Phe	Lys	His 660	Lys	Met	Val	Tyr	Glu 665	Asp	Thr	Leu	Thr	Leu 670	Phe	Pro
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Ile	Leu 690	Gly	Cys	His	Asn	Ser 695	Asp	Phe	Arg	Asn	Arg 700	Gly	Met	Thr	Ala
Leu 705	Leu	Lys	Val	Ser	Ser 710	Cys	Asp	Lys	Asn	Thr 715	Gly	Asp	Tyr	Tyr	Glu 720
Asp	Ser	Tyr	Glu	Asp 725	Ile	Ser	Ala	Tyr	Leu 730	Leu	Ser	Lys	Asn	Asn 735	Ala
Ile	Glu	Pro	Arg 740	Ser	Phe	Ser	Gln	Asn 745	Ser	Arg	His	Pro	Ser 750	Thr	Arg
Gln	Lys	Gln 755	Phe	Asn	Ala	Thr	Thr 760	Ile	Pro	Glu	Asn	Asp 765	Ile	Glu	Lys
Thr	Asp 770	Pro	Trp	Phe	Ala	His 775	Arg	Thr	Pro	Met	Pro 780	ГÀа	Ile	Gln	Asn
Val 785	Ser	Ser	Ser	Asp	Leu 790	Leu	Met	Leu	Leu	Arg 795	Gln	Ser	Pro	Thr	Pro 800
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Ser	Asp	Asp	Pro 820	Ser	Pro	Gly	Ala	Ile 825	Asp	Ser	Asn	Asn	Ser 830	Leu	Ser
Glu	Met	Thr 835	His	Phe	Arg	Pro	Gln 840	Leu	His	His	Ser	Gly 845	Asp	Met	Val
Phe	Thr 850	Pro	Glu	Ser	Gly	Leu 855	Gln	Leu	Arg	Leu	Asn 860	Glu	Lys	Leu	Gly
Thr 865	Thr	Ala	Ala	Thr	Glu 870	Leu	Lys	Lys	Leu	Asp 875	Phe	Lys	Val	Ser	Ser 880
Thr	Ser	Asn	Asn	Leu 885	Ile	Ser	Thr	Ile	Pro 890	Ser	Asp	Asn	Leu	Ala 895	Ala
Gly	Thr	Asp	Asn 900	Thr	Ser	Ser	Leu	Gly 905	Pro	Pro	Ser	Met	Pro 910	Val	His
Tyr	Asp	Ser 915	Gln	Leu	Asp	Thr	Thr 920	Leu	Phe	Gly	ГЛа	Lув 925	Ser	Ser	Pro
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Arg	Ala	His	Gly 980	Pro	Ala	Leu	Leu	Thr 985	Lys	Asp	Asn	Ala	Leu 990	Phe	Lys
Val	Ser	Ile 995	Ser	Leu	Leu	Lys	Thr		n Ly:	s Thi	r Se:	r Ası 100		en Se	er Ala
Thr	Asn 1010		g Ly:	3 Thi	r His	3 Ile 101	e As L5	ep Gi	ly Pi	ro Se		eu 1 020	Leu I	Ile (Glu
Asn	Ser 1025		Se:	r Val	l Trj	Gl:	n As	∍n I:	le Le	eu Gi		er 2	Aap :	Thr (3lu
Phe	Lys	Lys	a Vai	l Thi	r Pro) Le	ı I:	le H:	is As	sp Ai	rg Me	et 1	Leu M	Met A	Aap

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Pro	Ile 1085	Pro	Pro	Asp	Ala	Gln 1090	Asn	Pro	Asp	Met	Ser 1095	Phe	Phe	ГÀа
Met	Leu 1100	Phe	Leu	Pro	Glu	Ser 1105	Ala	Arg	Trp	Ile	Gln 1110	Arg	Thr	His
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Lys	Asp 1160	Val	Gly	Leu	Lys	Glu 1165	Met	Val	Phe	Pro	Ser 1170	Ser	Arg	Asn
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Leu	Ile 1205	Gln	Glu	Asn	Val	Val 1210	Leu	Pro	Gln	Ile	His 1215	Thr	Val	Thr
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Gln	Asp 1250	Phe	Arg	Ser	Leu	Asn 1255	Asp	Ser	Thr	Asn	Arg 1260	Thr	ГÀЗ	Lys
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Gly	Leu 1280	Gly	Asn	Gln	Thr	Lys 1285	Gln	Ile	Val	Glu	Lys 1290	Tyr	Ala	CAa
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Gln	Arg 1310	Ser	Lys	Arg	Ala	Leu 1315	Lys	Gln	Phe	Arg	Leu 1320	Pro	Leu	Glu
Glu	Thr 1325	Glu	Leu	Glu	Lys	Arg 1330	Ile	Ile	Val	Asp	Asp 1335	Thr	Ser	Thr
Gln	Trp 1340	Ser	Lys	Asn	Met	Lys 1345	His	Leu	Thr	Pro	Ser 1350	Thr	Leu	Thr
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Pro	Leu 1370	Ser	Asp	Cya	Leu	Thr 1375	Arg	Ser	His	Ser	Ile 1380	Pro	Gln	Ala
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Val	Ala 1550	Thr	Glu	Ser	Ser	Ala 1555	ГÀа	Thr	Pro	Ser	1560 Lys	Leu	Leu	Asp
Pro	Leu 1565	Ala	Trp	Asp	Asn	His 1570	Tyr	Gly	Thr	Gln	Ile 1575	Pro	Lys	Glu
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Thr	Leu 1655	Gln	Ser	Asp	Gln	Glu 1660	Glu	Ile	Asp	Tyr	Asp 1665	Asp	Thr	Ile
Ser	Val 1670	Glu	Met	Lys	Lys	Glu 1675	Asp	Phe	Asp	Ile	Tyr 1680	Asp	Glu	Asp
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Val	Gln 1820	His	His	Met	Ala	Pro 1825	Thr	Lys	Asp	Glu	Phe 1830	Asp	СЛа	Lys

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Phe	Phe 1880	Thr	Ile	Phe	Asp	Glu 1885		Lys	Ser	Trp	Tyr 1890	Phe	Thr	Glu
Asn	Met 1895	Glu	Arg	Asn	Cys	Arg 1900		Pro	Cys	Asn	Ile 1905		Met	Glu
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Tyr	Ile 1925	Met	Asp	Thr	Leu	Pro 1930		Leu	Val	Met	Ala 1935		Asp	Gln
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His	Ser 1955	Ile	His	Phe	Ser	Gly 1960		Val	Phe	Thr	Val 1965	Arg	Lys	ГÀа
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Asp	Leu 2075	Leu	Ala	Pro	Met	Ile 2080	Ile	His	Gly	Ile	Lys 2085	Thr	Gln	Gly
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Ile	Arg 2150		His	Pro	Thr	His 2155		Ser	Ile	Arg	Ser 2160		Leu	Arg
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Arg	Leu 2210	His	Leu	Gln	Gly	Arg 2215	Ser	Asn	Ala	Trp	Arg 2220		Gln	Val
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2225					223	30					2235			
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His Gln 2270	Trp	Thr	Leu	ı Phe	e Phe 22		ln A	sn G	ly L	_	/al 2280	Lys	Val	Phe
Gln Gly 2285	Asn	Gln	. Asp	Se:	r Phe		hr P	ro V	al V		Asn 2295	Ser	Leu	Asp
Pro Pro 2300	Leu	Leu	Thr	a Arg	g Ty:		eu A	rg I	le H		Pro 2310	Gln	Ser	Trp
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Arg Pro I 65	Pro '	Trp	Met	Gly 70	Leu	Leu	Gly	Pro	Thr 75	Ile	e Glı	n Ala	a Glu	ı Val 80
Tyr Asp 1	Thr '		Val 85	Ile	Thr	Leu	ГÀа	Asn 90	Met	Ala	a Sei	: His	95	Val
Ser Leu H		Ala 100	Val	Gly	Val	Ser	Tyr 105	_	Lys	Ala	a Sei	f Glu 110		/ Ala
Glu Tyr A	Asp . 115	Asp	Gln	Thr	Ser	Gln 120	Arg	Glu	. Lys	Glı	1 Asj 129		Ly:	₹ Val
Phe Pro 0	Gly	Gly	Ser	His	Thr 135	Tyr	Val	Trp	Gln	Va:		ı Lys	g Glu	ı Asn
Gly Pro N 145	Met 1	Ala		Asp 150	Pro	Leu	Cys	Leu	. Thr 155		s Sei	туг	: Le	ı Ser 160

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His	Lys	Phe 195	Ile	Leu	Leu	Phe	Ala 200	Val	Phe	Asp	Glu	Gly 205	Lys	Ser	Trp
His	Ser 210	Glu	Thr	Lys	Asn	Ser 215	Leu	Met	Gln	Asp	Arg 220	Asp	Ala	Ala	Ser
Ala 225	Arg	Ala	Trp	Pro	Lys 230	Met	His	Thr	Val	Asn 235	Gly	Tyr	Val	Asn	Arg 240
Ser	Leu	Pro	Gly	Leu 245	Ile	Gly	Cys	His	Arg 250	Lys	Ser	Val	Tyr	Trp 255	His
Val	Ile	Gly	Met 260	Gly	Thr	Thr	Pro	Glu 265	Val	His	Ser	Ile	Phe 270	Leu	Glu
Gly	His	Thr 275	Phe	Leu	Val	Arg	Asn 280	His	Arg	Gln	Ala	Ser 285	Leu	Glu	Ile
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Gln 305	Phe	Leu	Leu	Phe	Cys 310	His	Ile	Ser	Ser	His 315	Gln	His	Asp	Gly	Met 320
Glu	Ala	Tyr	Val	Lys 325	Val	Asp	Ser	Cys	Pro 330	Glu	Glu	Pro	Gln	Leu 335	Arg
Met	Lys	Asn	Asn 340	Glu	Glu	Ala	Glu	Asp 345	Tyr	Asp	Asp	Asp	Leu 350	Thr	Asp
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Tyr 385	Ile	Ala	Ala	Glu	Glu 390	Glu	Asp	Trp	Asp	Tyr 395	Ala	Pro	Leu	Val	Leu 400
Ala	Pro	Asp	Asp	Arg 405	Ser	Tyr	Lys	Ser	Gln 410	Tyr	Leu	Asn	Asn	Gly 415	Pro
Gln	Arg	Ile	Gly 420	Arg	Lys	Tyr	Lys	Lys 425	Val	Arg	Phe	Met	Ala 430	Tyr	Thr
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Thr	Asp	Val	Arg	Pro 485	Leu	Tyr	Ser	Arg	Arg 490	Leu	Pro	Lys	Gly	Val 495	Lys
His	Leu	Lys	Asp 500	Phe	Pro	Ile	Leu	Pro 505	Gly	Glu	Ile	Phe	Lys 510	Tyr	Lys
Trp	Thr	Val 515	Thr	Val	Glu	Asp	Gly 520	Pro	Thr	Lys	Ser	Asp 525	Pro	Arg	Сув
Leu	Thr 530	Arg	Tyr	Tyr	Ser	Ser 535	Phe	Val	Asn	Met	Glu 540	Arg	Asp	Leu	Ala
Ser 545	Gly	Leu	Ile	Gly	Pro 550	Leu	Leu	Ile	Cys	Tyr 555	Lys	Glu	Ser	Val	Asp 560
Gln	Arg	Gly	Asn	Gln 565	Ile	Met	Ser	Asp	Lys 570	Arg	Asn	Val	Ile	Leu 575	Phe
Ser	Val	Phe	Asp	Glu	Asn	Arg	Ser	Trp	Tyr	Leu	Thr	Glu	Asn	Ile	Gln

			580					585					590		
Arg	Phe	Leu 595	Pro	Asn	Pro	Ala	Gly 600	Val	Gln	Leu	Glu	Asp 605	Pro	Glu	Phe
Gln	Ala 610	Ser	Asn	Ile	Met	His 615	Ser	Ile	Asn	Gly	Tyr 620	Val	Phe	Asp	Ser
Leu 625	Gln	Leu	Ser	Val	630	Leu	His	Glu	Val	Ala 635	Tyr	Trp	Tyr	Ile	Leu 640
Ser	Ile	Gly	Ala	Gln 645	Thr	Asp	Phe	Leu	Ser 650	Val	Phe	Phe	Ser	Gly 655	Tyr
Thr	Phe	Lys	His 660	Lys	Met	Val	Tyr	Glu 665	Asp	Thr	Leu	Thr	Leu 670	Phe	Pro
Phe	Ser	Gly 675	Glu	Thr	Val	Phe	Met 680	Ser	Met	Glu	Asn	Pro 685	Gly	Leu	Trp
Ile	Leu 690	Gly	Cys	His	Asn	Ser 695	Asp	Phe	Arg	Asn	Arg 700	Gly	Met	Thr	Ala
Leu 705	Leu	Lys	Val	Ser	Ser 710	Cys	Asp	Lys	Asn	Thr 715	Gly	Asp	Tyr	Tyr	Glu 720
Asp	Ser	Tyr	Glu	Asp 725	Ile	Ser	Ala	Tyr	Leu 730	Leu	Ser	Lys	Asn	Asn 735	Ala
Ile	Glu	Pro	Arg 740	Ser	Phe	Ser	Gln	Asn 745	Ser	Arg	His	Pro	Ser 750	Thr	Arg
Gln	Lys	Gln 755	Phe	Asn	Ala	Thr	Thr 760	Ile	Pro	Glu	Asn	765	Ile	Glu	ГЛа
Thr	Asp 770	Pro	Trp	Phe	Ala	His 775	Arg	Thr	Pro	Met	Pro 780	Lys	Ile	Gln	Asn
Val 785	Ser	Ser	Ser	Asp	Leu 790	Leu	Met	Leu	Leu	Arg 795	Gln	Ser	Pro	Thr	Pro 800
His	Gly	Leu	Ser	Leu 805	Ser	Asp	Leu	Gln	Glu 810	Ala	Lys	Tyr	Glu	Thr 815	Phe
Ser	Asp	Asp	Pro 820	Ser	Pro	Gly	Ala	Ile 825	Asp	Ser	Asn	Asn	Ser 830	Leu	Ser
Glu	Met	Thr 835	His	Phe	Arg	Pro	Gln 840	Leu	His	His	Ser	Gly 845	Asp	Met	Val
Phe	Thr 850	Pro	Glu	Ser	Gly	Leu 855	Gln	Leu	Arg	Leu	Asn 860	Glu	Lys	Leu	Gly
Thr 865	Thr	Ala	Ala	Thr	Glu 870	Leu	Lys	Lys	Leu	Asp 875	Phe	Lys	Val	Ser	Ser 880
Thr	Ser	Asn	Asn	Leu 885	Ile	Ser	Thr	Ile	Pro 890	Ser	Asp	Asn	Leu	Ala 895	Ala
Gly	Thr	Asp	Asn 900	Thr	Ser	Ser	Leu	Gly 905	Pro	Pro	Ser	Met	Pro 910	Val	His
Tyr	Asp	Ser 915	Gln	Leu	Asp	Thr	Thr 920	Leu	Phe	Gly	Lys	Lys 925	Ser	Ser	Pro
Leu	Thr 930	Glu	Ser	Gly	Gly	Pro 935	Leu	Ser	Leu	Ser	Glu 940	Glu	Asn	Asn	Asp
Ser 945	ГЛа	Leu	Leu	Glu	Ser 950	Gly	Leu	Met	Asn	Ser 955	Gln	Glu	Ser	Ser	Trp 960
Gly	Lys	Asn	Val	Ser 965	His	His	His	His	His 970	His	Ser	Gln	Asn	Pro 975	Pro
Val	Leu	Lys	Arg 980	His	Gln	Arg	Glu	Ile 985	Thr	Arg	Thr	Thr	Leu 990	Gln	Ser
Asp	Gln	Glu 995	Glu	Ile	Asp	Tyr	Asp) Thi	r Ile	e Se:	r Va:		lu Me	et Lys

ГЛа	Glu 1010	Asp	Phe	Asp	Ile	Tyr 1015	Asp	Glu	Asp	Glu	Asn 1020	Gln	Ser	Pro
Arg	Ser 1025	Phe	Gln	Lys	Lys	Thr 1030	Arg	His	Tyr	Phe	Ile 1035	Ala	Ala	Val
Glu	Arg 1040	Leu	Trp	Asp	Tyr	Gly 1045	Met	Ser	Ser	Ser	Pro 1050	His	Val	Leu
Arg	Asn 1055	Arg	Ala	Gln	Ser	Gly 1060	Ser	Val	Pro	Gln	Phe 1065	ГЛа	ГЛа	Val
Val	Phe 1070	Gln	Glu	Phe	Thr	Asp 1075	Gly	Ser	Phe	Thr	Gln 1080	Pro	Leu	Tyr
Arg	Gly 1085	Glu	Leu	Asn	Glu	His 1090	Leu	Gly	Leu	Leu	Gly 1095	Pro	Tyr	Ile
Arg	Ala 1100	Glu	Val	Glu	Asp	Asn 1105	Ile	Met	Val	Thr	Phe 1110	Arg	Asn	Gln
Ala	Ser 1115	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Ser	Phe 1120	Tyr	Ser	Ser	Leu	Ile 1125	Ser	Tyr	Glu
Glu	Asp 1130	Gln	Arg	Gln	Gly	Ala 1135	Glu	Pro	Arg	Lys	Asn 1140	Phe	Val	ГÀа
Pro	Asn 1145	Glu	Thr	Lys	Thr	Tyr 1150	Phe	Trp	Lys	Val	Gln 1155	His	His	Met
Ala	Pro 1160	Thr	Lys	Asp	Glu	Phe 1165	Asp	Cys	Lys	Ala	Trp 1170	Ala	Tyr	Phe
Ser	Asp 1175	Val	Aap	Leu	Glu	Lys 1180	Asp	Val	His	Ser	Gly 1185	Leu	Ile	Gly
Pro	Leu 1190	Leu	Val	Сув	His	Thr 1195	Asn	Thr	Leu	Asn	Pro 1200	Ala	His	Gly
Arg	Gln 1205	Val	Thr	Val	Gln	Glu 1210	Phe	Ala	Leu	Phe	Phe 1215	Thr	Ile	Phe
Asp	Glu 1220	Thr	Lys	Ser	Trp	Tyr 1225	Phe	Thr	Glu	Asn	Met 1230	Glu	Arg	Asn
CÀa	Arg 1235	Ala	Pro	CÀa	Asn	Ile 1240	Gln	Met	Glu	Asp	Pro 1245	Thr	Phe	ГÀв
	1250					1255					Ile 1260			
Leu	Pro 1265	Gly	Leu	Val	Met	Ala 1270	Gln	Aap	Gln	Arg	Ile 1275	Arg	Trp	Tyr
Leu	Leu 1280	Ser	Met	Gly	Ser	Asn 1285	Glu	Asn	Ile	His	Ser 1290	Ile	His	Phe
Ser	Gly 1295	His	Val	Phe	Thr	Val 1300	Arg	Lys	Lys	Glu	Glu 1305	Tyr	Lys	Met
Ala	Leu 1310	Tyr	Asn	Leu	Tyr	Pro 1315	Gly	Val	Phe	Glu	Thr 1320	Val	Glu	Met
Leu	Pro 1325	Ser	Lys	Ala	Gly	Ile 1330	Trp	Arg	Val	Glu	Cys 1335	Leu	Ile	Gly
Glu	His 1340	Leu	His	Ala	Gly	Met 1345	Ser	Thr	Leu	Phe	Leu 1350	Val	Tyr	Ser
Asn	Lys 1355	CÀa	Gln	Thr	Pro	Leu 1360	Gly	Met	Ala	Ser	Gly 1365	His	Ile	Arg
Asp	Phe 1370	Gln	Ile	Thr	Ala	Ser 1375	Gly	Gln	Tyr	Gly	Gln 1380	Trp	Ala	Pro
Lys	Leu 1385	Ala	Arg	Leu	His	Tyr 1390	Ser	Gly	Ser	Ile	Asn 1395	Ala	Trp	Ser

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Thr Lys Glu Pro Phe Ser Trp Ile Lys Val Asp Leu Leu Ala Pro 1400 1405 1410
Met Ile Ile His Gly Ile Lys Thr Gln Gly Ala Arg Gln Lys Phe 1415 1420 1425
Ser Ser Leu Tyr Ile Ser Gln Phe Ile Ile Met Tyr Ser Leu Asp 1430 1435 1440
Gly Lys Lys Trp Gln Thr Tyr Arg Gly Asn Ser Thr Gly Thr Leu 1445 1450 1455
Met Val Phe Phe Gly Asn Val Asp Ser Ser Gly Ile Lys His Asn 1460 1465 1470
Ile Phe Asn Pro Pro Ile Ile Ala Arg Tyr Ile Arg Leu His Pro 1475 1480 1485
Thr His Tyr Ser Ile Arg Ser Thr Leu Arg Met Glu Leu Met Gly 1490 1495 1500
Cys Asp Leu Asn Ser Cys Ser Met Pro Leu Gly Met Glu Ser Lys 1505 1510 1515
Ala Ile Ser Asp Ala Gln Ile Thr Ala Ser Ser Tyr Phe Thr Asn 1520 1525 1530
Met Phe Ala Thr Trp Ser Pro Ser Lys Ala Arg Leu His Leu Gln 1535 1540 1545
Gly Arg Ser Asn Ala Trp Arg Pro Gln Val Asn Asn Pro Lys Glu
1550 1555 1560 Trp Leu Gln Val Asp Phe Gln Lys Thr Met Lys Val Thr Gly Val
Thr Thr Gln Gly Val Lys Ser Leu Leu Thr Ser Met Tyr Val Lys
1580 1585 1590 Glu Phe Leu Ile Ser Ser Gln Asp Gly His Gln Trp Thr Leu
1595 1600 1605 Phe Phe Gln Asn Gly Lys Val Lys Val Phe Gln Gly Asn Gln Asp
Ser Phe Thr Pro Val Val Asn Ser Leu Asp Pro Pro Leu Leu Thr
1625 1630 1635 Arg Tyr Leu Arg Ile His Pro Gln Ser Trp Val His Gln Ile Ala
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Asn Leu Arg Ala Glu Gly Leu Glu Cys Thr Lys Thr Cys Gln Asn Tyr 20 25 30
Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro 35 40 45
Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys 50 55 60

Pro 65

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<212> TYPE: PRT
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Asn Leu Arg Ala Glu Gly Leu Glu Cys Thr Lys Thr Cys Gln Asn Tyr
Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro$35$
Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys
Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys
Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr
Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala
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<211> LENGTH: 272
<212> TYPE: PRT
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: vWF fragment: amino acids 764-1035
     (TIL'/E'/VWD3 I)
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Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro
Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys
Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys
Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr
Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr
Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr
Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile
                       135
Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys Lys
                   150
                                      155
Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly
Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val
Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser
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Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr 215 Tyr Gln Glu Lys Val Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly Asn Phe Asp Gly Ile Gln Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg <210> SEQ ID NO 7 <211> LENGTH: 278 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: vWF fragment: amino acids 764-1041 (TIL'/E'/VWD3 II) <400> SEQUENCE: 7 Ser Leu Ser Cys Arg Pro Pro Met Val Lys Leu Val Cys Pro Ala Asp Asn Leu Arg Ala Glu Gly Leu Glu Cys Thr Lys Thr Cys Gln Asn Tyr Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr 105 Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr 120 Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys Lys Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr 215 Tyr Gl
n Glu Lys Val Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly As
n Phe Asp Gly Ile Gl
n $\,$ Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg 265 Lys Val Pro Leu Asp Ser

275

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Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro 35 \phantom{0} 45
Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys 50 60
Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys
Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr
Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr
                              105
Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr
Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile
                      135
Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys Lys
                  150
                             155
Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly
                                   170
Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val
Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser
                        200
Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr
Tyr Gln Glu Lys Val Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly Asn Phe Asp Gly Ile Gln
Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val
Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg
Lys Val Pro Leu Asp Ser Ser Pro Ala Thr
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<212> TYPE: PRT
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Asn Leu Arg Ala Glu Gly Leu Glu Cys Thr Lys Thr Cys Gln Asn Tyr Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile 130 135 140 Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys 145 150 155 160 Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val 185 Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser 200 Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr Tyr Gln Glu Lys Val Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly Asn Phe Asp Gly Ile Gln 235 Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg Lys Val Pro Leu Asp Ser Ser Pro Ala Thr Cys His Asn Asn Ile Met Lys Gln Thr Met Val Asp Ser Ser Cys Arg Ile Leu Thr Ser Asp Val 295 Phe Gln Asp Cys Asn Lys Leu Val Asp Pro Glu Pro Tyr Leu Asp Val Cys Ile Tyr Asp Thr Cys Ser Cys Glu Ser Ile Gly Asp Cys Ala Cys $325 \hspace{1.5cm} 330 \hspace{1.5cm} 335$ Phe Cys Asp Thr Ile Ala Ala Tyr Ala His Val Cys Ala Gln His Gly Lys Val Val Thr Trp Arg Thr Ala Thr Leu Cys Pro Gln <210> SEQ ID NO 10 <211> LENGTH: 435 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: vWF fragment: amino acids 764-1198 (TIL'/E'/VWD3/C8-3/TIL-3) <400> SEQUENCE: 10 Ser Leu Ser Cys Arg Pro Pro Met Val Lys Leu Val Cys Pro Ala Asp 10

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Asp	Leu	Glu 35	Сув	Met	Ser	Met	Gly 40	Сув	Val	Ser	Gly	Сув 45	Leu	Сув	Pro
Pro	Gly 50	Met	Val	Arg	His	Glu 55	Asn	Arg	Cys	Val	Ala 60	Leu	Glu	Arg	Cys
Pro 65	Cys	Phe	His	Gln	Gly 70	Lys	Glu	Tyr	Ala	Pro 75	Gly	Glu	Thr	Val	80 Lys
Ile	Gly	Сув	Asn	Thr 85	CÀa	Val	Cys	Gln	Asp 90	Arg	ГÀа	Trp	Asn	Сув 95	Thr
Asp	His	Val	Cys 100	Asp	Ala	Thr	СЛа	Ser 105	Thr	Ile	Gly	Met	Ala 110	His	Tyr
Leu	Thr	Phe 115	Asp	Gly	Leu	Lys	Tyr 120	Leu	Phe	Pro	Gly	Glu 125	Сув	Gln	Tyr
Val	Leu 130	Val	Gln	Asp	Tyr	Сув 135	Gly	Ser	Asn	Pro	Gly 140	Thr	Phe	Arg	Ile
Leu 145	Val	Gly	Asn	ГÀа	Gly 150	CÀa	Ser	His	Pro	Ser 155	Val	ГÀв	CÀa	ГÀа	Lys 160
Arg	Val	Thr	Ile	Leu 165	Val	Glu	Gly	Gly	Glu 170	Ile	Glu	Leu	Phe	Asp 175	Gly
Glu	Val	Asn	Val 180	Lys	Arg	Pro	Met	Lys 185	Asp	Glu	Thr	His	Phe 190	Glu	Val
Val	Glu	Ser 195	Gly	Arg	Tyr	Ile	Ile 200	Leu	Leu	Leu	Gly	Lys 205	Ala	Leu	Ser
Val	Val 210	Trp	Asp	Arg	His	Leu 215	Ser	Ile	Ser	Val	Val 220	Leu	Lys	Gln	Thr
Tyr 225	Gln	Glu	ГÀз	Val	Cys 230	Gly	Leu	Cys	Gly	Asn 235	Phe	Asp	Gly	Ile	Gln 240
Asn	Asn	Asp	Leu	Thr 245	Ser	Ser	Asn	Leu	Gln 250	Val	Glu	Glu	Asp	Pro 255	Val
Asp	Phe	Gly	Asn 260	Ser	Trp	Lys	Val	Ser 265	Ser	Gln	Cys	Ala	Asp 270	Thr	Arg
Lys	Val	Pro 275	Leu	Asp	Ser	Ser	Pro 280	Ala	Thr	CAa	His	Asn 285	Asn	Ile	Met
ГÀа	Gln 290	Thr	Met	Val	Asp	Ser 295	Ser	Cys	Arg	Ile	Leu 300	Thr	Ser	Asp	Val
Phe 305	Gln	Asp	Cys	Asn	Lys 310	Leu	Val	Asp	Pro	Glu 315	Pro	Tyr	Leu	Asp	Val 320
CÀa	Ile	Tyr	Asp	Thr 325	CAa	Ser	Cys	Glu	Ser 330	Ile	Gly	Asp	Cys	Ala 335	CÀa
Phe	Cys	Asp	Thr 340	Ile	Ala	Ala	Tyr	Ala 345	His	Val	Cys	Ala	Gln 350	His	Gly
ГÀв	Val	Val 355	Thr	Trp	Arg	Thr	Ala 360	Thr	Leu	Cys	Pro	Gln 365	Ser	Cys	Glu
Glu	Arg 370	Asn	Leu	Arg	Glu	Asn 375	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Cys	Glu 380	Trp	Arg	Tyr	Asn
Ser 385	CÀa	Ala	Pro	Ala	390 Cys	Gln	Val	Thr	Cys	Gln 395	His	Pro	Glu	Pro	Leu 400
Ala	Сув	Pro	Val	Gln 405	Сла	Val	Glu	Gly	Cys 410	His	Ala	His	Cya	Pro 415	Pro
Gly	Lys	Ile	Leu 420	Asp	Glu	Leu	Leu	Gln 425	Thr	Сув	Val	Asp	Pro 430	Glu	Asp

Cys Pro Val 435 <210> SEQ ID NO 11 <211> LENGTH: 487 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: vWF fragment: amino acids 764-1250 (TIL'/E'/D3 I <400> SEQUENCE: 11 Ser Leu Ser Cys Arg Pro Pro Met Val Lys Leu Val Cys Pro Ala Asp Asn Leu Arg Ala Glu Gly Leu Glu Cys Thr Lys Thr Cys Gln Asn Tyr $20 \\ 25 \\ 30$ Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro $35 \ \ \,$ 40 $\ \ \,$ 45 Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys 50 $\,$ 55 $\,$ 60 $\,$ Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr 120 Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile 135 Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys Lys 150 Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr Tyr Gln Glu Lys Val Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly Asn Phe Asp Gly Ile Gln Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg Lys Val Pro Leu Asp Ser Ser Pro Ala Thr Cys His Asn Asn Ile Met Lys Gln Thr Met Val Asp Ser Ser Cys Arg Ile Leu Thr Ser Asp Val 295 Phe Gln Asp Cys Asn Lys Leu Val Asp Pro Glu Pro Tyr Leu Asp Val Cys Ile Tyr Asp Thr Cys Ser Cys Glu Ser Ile Gly Asp Cys Ala Cys 330 Phe Cys Asp Thr Ile Ala Ala Tyr Ala His Val Cys Ala Gln His Gly

Lys Val Val Thr Trp Arg Thr Ala Thr Leu Cys Pro Gln Ser Cys Glu 360 Glu Arg Asn Leu Arg Glu Asn Gly Tyr Glu Cys Glu Trp Arg Tyr Asn Ser Cys Ala Pro Ala Cys Gln Val Thr Cys Gln His Pro Glu Pro Leu Ala Cys Pro Val Gln Cys Val Glu Gly Cys His Ala His Cys Pro Pro Gly Lys Ile Leu Asp Glu Leu Leu Gln Thr Cys Val Asp Pro Glu Asp Cys Pro Val Cys Glu Val Ala Gly Arg Arg Phe Ala Ser Gly Lys Lys Val Thr Leu Asn Pro Ser Asp Pro Glu His Cys Gln Ile Cys His Cys Asp Val Val Asn Leu Thr Cys Glu Ala Cys Gln Glu Pro Gly Gly Leu Val Val Pro Pro Thr Asp Ala 485 <210> SEQ ID NO 12 <211> LENGTH: 386 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: vWF fragment: amino acids 864-1250 (D3 I) <400> SEOUENCE: 12 Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly 10 Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys Lys Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr Tyr Gln Glu Lys Val Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly Asn Phe Asp Gly Ile Gln Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr 135 Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg Lys Val Pro Leu Asp 170 Ser Ser Pro Ala Thr Cys His Asn Asn Ile Met Lys Gln Thr Met Val 185 Asp Ser Ser Cys Arg Ile Leu Thr Ser Asp Val Phe Gln Asp Cys Asn 200 Lys Leu Val Asp Pro Glu Pro Tyr Leu Asp Val Cys Ile Tyr Asp Thr 215

Cys Ser Cys Glu Ser Ile Gly Asp Cys Ala Cys Phe Cys Asp Thr Ile 230 Ala Ala Tyr Ala His Val Cys Ala Gln His Gly Lys Val Val Thr Trp 245 Arg Thr Ala Thr Leu Cys Pro Gln Ser Cys Glu Glu Arg Asn Leu Arg Glu Asn Gly Tyr Glu Cys Glu Trp Arg Tyr Asn Ser Cys Ala Pro Ala Cys Gln Val Thr Cys Gln His Pro Glu Pro Leu Ala Cys Pro Val Gln Cys Val Glu Gly Cys His Ala His Cys Pro Pro Gly Lys Ile Leu Asp Glu Leu Leu Gln Thr Cys Val Asp Pro Glu Asp Cys Pro Val Cys Glu Val Ala Gly Arg Arg Phe Ala Ser Gly Lys Lys Val Thr Leu Asn Pro 345 Ser Asp Pro Glu His Cys Gln Ile Cys His Cys Asp Val Val Asn Leu 360 Thr Cys Glu Ala Cys Gln Glu Pro Gly Gly Leu Val Val Pro Pro Thr 375 Asp Ala 385 <210> SEQ ID NO 13 <211> LENGTH: 405 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: vWF fragment: amino acids 864-1268 (D3 II) <400> SEOUENCE: 13 Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys Lys Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr Tyr Gln Glu Lys Val 120 Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly Asn Phe Asp Gly Ile Gln Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr 135 Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg Lys Val Pro Leu Asp 170 Ser Ser Pro Ala Thr Cys His Asn Asn Ile Met Lys Gln Thr Met Val 185

Asp															
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Ala	Ala	Tyr	Ala	His 245	Val	Cys	Ala	Gln	His 250	Gly	Lys	Val	Val	Thr 255	Trp
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CÀa	Gln 290	Val	Thr	CAa	Gln	His 295	Pro	Glu	Pro	Leu	Ala 300	CÀa	Pro	Val	Gln
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Glu	Leu	Leu	Gln	Thr 325	Cys	Val	Asp	Pro	Glu 330	Asp	Cys	Pro	Val	Сув 335	Glu
Val	Ala	Gly	Arg 340	Arg	Phe	Ala	Ser	Gly 345	Lys	Lys	Val	Thr	Leu 350	Asn	Pro
Ser	Asp	Pro 355	Glu	His	Cys	Gln	Ile 360	Сув	His	Cys	Asp	Val 365	Val	Asn	Leu
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Asp	Phe	Gly	Asn 260	Ser	Trp	Lys	Val	Ser 265	Ser	Gln	Сув	Ala	Asp 270	Thr	Arg
Lys	Val	Pro 275	Leu	Asp	Ser	Ser	Pro 280	Ala	Thr	Сув	His	Asn 285	Asn	Ile	Met
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Glu	Arg 370	Asn	Leu	Arg	Glu	Asn 375	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Сув	Glu 380	Trp	Arg	Tyr	Asn
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Gly	Lys		Leu 420				Leu			Сув	Val		Pro 430		Asp
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Glu	Asp														
	D> SI														
	L> LI 2> T			02											
	3 > OI 0 > FI			Art	ific:	ial :	Seque	ence							
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Asp	Leu	Glu 35	Cys	Met	Ser	Met	Gly 40	Cys	Val	Ser	Gly	Cys 45	Leu	Cys	Pro
Pro	Gly 50	Met	Val	Arg	His	Glu 55	Asn	Arg	Сув	Val	Ala 60	Leu	Glu	Arg	Сув
Pro 65	CÀa	Phe	His	Gln	Gly 70	Lys	Glu	Tyr	Ala	Pro 75	Gly	Glu	Thr	Val	Eys
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Glu	Arg 370	Asn	Leu	Arg	Glu	Asn 375	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Cys	Glu 380	Trp	Arg	Tyr	Asn
Ser 385	Сув	Ala	Pro	Ala	390	Gln	Val	Thr	Сув	Gln 395	His	Pro	Glu	Pro	Leu 400
Ala	Сув	Pro	Val	Gln 405	Сла	Val	Glu	Gly	Cys 410	His	Ala	His	Cys	Pro 415	Pro

Gly Lys Ile Leu Asp Glu Leu Leu Gln Thr Cys Val Asp Pro Glu Asp 425 Cys Pro Val Cys Glu Val Ala Gly Arg Arg Phe Ala Ser Gly Lys Lys 440 Val Thr Leu Asn Pro Ser Asp Pro Glu His Cys Gln Ile Cys His Cys Asp Val Val Asn Leu Thr Cys Glu Ala Cys Gln Glu Pro Gly Gly Leu Val Val Pro Pro Thr Asp Ala Pro Val Ser Pro Thr Thr Leu Tyr Val Glu Asp Ile Ser Glu Pro <210> SEQ ID NO 16 <211> LENGTH: 506 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: vWF fragment: amino acids 764-1268 (TIL'/E'/D3 IV) <400> SEQUENCE: 16 Ser Leu Ser Cys Arg Pro Pro Met Val Lys Leu Val Cys Pro Ala Asp 1 10 15 Asn Leu Arg Ala Glu Gly Leu Glu Cys Thr Lys Thr Cys Gln Asn Tyr $20 \\ 25 \\ 30$ Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys 55 Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys 145 150 155 160 Arg Val Thr Ile Leu Val Glu Gly Gly Glu Ile Glu Leu Phe Asp Gly Glu Val Asn Val Lys Arg Pro Met Lys Asp Glu Thr His Phe Glu Val Val Glu Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Ile Leu Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala Leu Ser 200 Val Val Trp Asp Arg His Leu Ser Ile Ser Val Val Leu Lys Gln Thr 215 Tyr Gln Glu Lys Val Cys Gly Leu Cys Gly Asn Phe Asp Gly Ile Gln Asn Asn Asp Leu Thr Ser Ser Asn Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Asp Pro Val Asp Phe Gly Asn Ser Trp Lys Val Ser Ser Gln Cys Ala Asp Thr Arg

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Lys	Val	Pro 275	Leu	Asp	Ser	Ser	Pro 280	Ala	Thr	Cys	His	Asn 285	Asn	Ile	Met
ГÀв	Gln 290	Thr	Met	Val	Asp	Ser 295	Ser	Cys	Arg	Ile	Leu 300	Thr	Ser	Asp	Val
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Gln 625	Glu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Met 630	Ser	Arg	Asn	Phe	Val 635	Arg	Tyr	Val	Gln	Gly 640
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Ala	Сув	Pro	Val	Gln 405	CAa	Val	Glu	Gly	Cys 410	His	Ala	His	Cha	Pro 415	Pro
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Val	Thr 450	Leu	Asn	Pro	Ser	Asp 455	Pro	Glu	His	Сув	Gln 460	Ile	Cha	His	СЛа
Asp 465	Val	Val	Asn	Leu	Thr 470	CAa	Glu	Ala	Cys	Gln 475	Glu	Pro	Gly	Gly	Leu 480
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Pro	Gly 50	Met	Val	Arg	His	Glu 55	Asn	Arg	Сув	Val	Ala 60	Leu	Glu	Arg	Cya
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Ser	Thr	Ser 595	Glu	Val	Leu	Lys	Tyr 600	Thr	Leu	Phe	Gln	Ile 605	Phe	Ser	Lys
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Glu	Arg 370	Asn	Leu	Arg	Glu	Asn 375	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Сув	Glu 380	Trp	Arg	Tyr	Asn
Ser 385	Сув	Ala	Pro	Ala	Cys 390	Gln	Val	Thr	Cys	Gln 395	His	Pro	Glu	Pro	Leu 400
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Lys	Ala	Phe 675	Val	Leu	Ser	Ser	Val 680	Asp	Glu	Leu	Glu	Gln 685	Gln	Arg	Asp
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Arg	Ser	Lys 755	Glu	Phe	Met	Glu	Glu 760	Val	Ile	Gln	Arg	Met 765	Asp	Val	Gly
Gln	Asp	Ser	Ile	His	Val	Thr	Val	Leu	Gln	Tyr	Ser	Tyr	Met	Val	Thr

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Leu	Gly 2630	Tyr	Lys	Glu	Glu	Asn 2635	Asn	Thr	Gly	Glu	Cys 2640	Cys	Gly	Arg
Cys	Leu 2645	Pro	Thr	Ala	Сув	Thr 2650	Ile	Gln	Leu	Arg	Gly 2655	Gly	Gln	Ile
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His	Phe 2675	Сув	Lys	Val	Asn	Glu 2680	Arg	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Phe 2685	Trp	Glu	Lys
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Thr Glu Pro Met Gln Val Ala Leu His Cys Thr Asn 2780 2785 2790	Gly Ser Val
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Asp Leu Glu Cys Met Ser Met Gly Cys Val Ser Gly Cys Leu Cys Pro
Pro Gly Met Val Arg His Glu Asn Arg Cys Val Ala Leu Glu Arg Cys
Pro Cys Phe His Gln Gly Lys Glu Tyr Ala Pro Gly Glu Thr Val Lys
Ile Gly Cys Asn Thr Cys Val Cys Gln Asp Arg Lys Trp Asn Cys Thr
Asp His Val Cys Asp Ala Thr Cys Ser Thr Ile Gly Met Ala His Tyr
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Leu Thr Phe Asp Gly Leu Lys Tyr Leu Phe Pro Gly Glu Cys Gln Tyr
Val Leu Val Gln Asp Tyr Cys Gly Ser Asn Pro Gly Thr Phe Arg Ile
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Leu Val Gly Asn Lys Gly Cys Ser His Pro Ser Val Lys Cys Lys Lys
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Val	Glu	Ser 195	Gly	Arg	Tyr	Ile	Ile 200	Leu	Leu	Leu	Gly	Lys 205	Ala	Leu	Ser
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Phe	Cys	Asp	Thr 340	Ile	Ala	Ala	Tyr	Ala 345	His	Val	Сув	Ala	Gln 350	His	Gly
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Asp	His	Val	Cys 100	Asp	Ala	Thr	Cys	Ser 105	Thr	Ile	Gly	Met	Ala 110	His	Tyr
Leu	Thr	Phe 115	Asp	Gly	Leu	ГÀа	Tyr 120	Leu	Phe	Pro	Gly	Glu 125	CÀa	Gln	Tyr
Val	Leu 130	Val	Gln	Asp	Tyr	Сув 135	Gly	Ser	Asn	Pro	Gly 140	Thr	Phe	Arg	Ile
Leu 145	Val	Gly	Asn	Lys	Gly 150	Cys	Ser	His	Pro	Ser 155	Val	Lys	Cys	Lys	Lys 160
Arg	Val	Thr	Ile	Leu 165	Val	Glu	Gly	Gly	Glu 170	Ile	Glu	Leu	Phe	Asp 175	Gly
Glu	Val	Asn	Val 180	Lys	Arg	Pro	Met	Lys 185	Asp	Glu	Thr	His	Phe 190	Glu	Val
Val	Glu	Ser 195	Gly	Arg	Tyr	Ile	Ile 200	Leu	Leu	Leu	Gly	Lys 205	Ala	Leu	Ser
Val	Val 210	Trp	Asp	Arg	His	Leu 215	Ser	Ile	Ser	Val	Val 220	Leu	Lys	Gln	Thr
Tyr 225	Gln	Glu	Lys	Val	Cys 230	Gly	Leu	Cys	Gly	Asn 235	Phe	Asp	Gly	Ile	Gln 240
Asn	Asn	Asp	Leu	Thr 245	Ser	Ser	Asn	Leu	Gln 250	Val	Glu	Glu	Asp	Pro 255	Val
Asp	Phe	Gly	Asn 260	Ser	Trp	Lys	Val	Ser 265	Ser	Gln	Сув	Ala	Asp 270	Thr	Arg
Lys	Val	Pro 275	Leu	Asp	Ser	Ser	Pro 280	Ala	Thr	Сув	His	Asn 285	Asn	Ile	Met
Lys	Gln 290	Thr	Met	Val	Asp	Ser 295	Ser	Cys	Arg	Ile	Leu 300	Thr	Ser	Asp	Val
Phe 305	Gln	Asp	Сув	Asn	Lys 310	Leu	Val	Asp	Pro	Glu 315	Pro	Tyr	Leu	Asp	Val 320
Cys	Ile	Tyr	Asp	Thr 325	Cys	Ser	Cys	Glu	Ser 330	Ile	Gly	Asp	Cys	Ala 335	Cys
Phe	Сув	Asp	Thr 340	Ile	Ala	Ala	Tyr	Ala 345	His	Val	Cys	Ala	Gln 350	His	Gly
Lys	Val	Val 355	Thr	Trp	Arg	Thr	Ala 360	Thr	Leu	Сув	Pro	Gln 365	Ser	Сув	Glu
Glu	Arg 370	Asn	Leu	Arg	Glu	Asn 375	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Сув	Glu 380	Trp	Arg	Tyr	Asn
Ser 385	Сув	Ala	Pro	Ala	Cys 390	Gln	Val	Thr	Cys	Gln 395	His	Pro	Glu	Pro	Leu 400
Ala	Cys	Pro	Val	Gln 405	CAa	Val	Glu	Gly	Cys 410	His	Ala	His	Cys	Pro 415	Pro
Gly	Lys	Ile	Leu 420	Asp	Glu	Leu	Leu	Gln 425	Thr	Cys	Val	Asp	Pro 430	Glu	Asp
Cys	Pro	Val 435	Сув	Glu	Val	Ala	Gly 440	Arg	Arg	Phe	Ala	Ser 445	Gly	Lys	Lys
Val	Thr 450	Leu	Asn	Pro	Ser	Asp 455	Pro	Glu	His	Сув	Gln 460	Ile	Сув	His	Сув

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	sp 65	Val	Val	Asn	Leu	Thr 470	CAa	Glu	Ala	Cys	Gln 475	Glu	Pro	Gly	Gly	Leu 480
V	al	Val	Pro	Pro	Thr 485	Asp	Ala	Pro	Val	Ser 490	Pro	Thr	Thr	Leu	Tyr 495	Val
G	lu	Asp	Ile	Ser 500	Glu	Pro	Pro	Leu	His 505	Asp	Phe	Tyr	CAa	Ser 510	Arg	Leu
L	eu	Asp	Leu 515	Val	Phe	Leu	Leu	Asp 520	Gly	Ser	Ser	Arg	Leu 525	Ser	Glu	Ala
G	lu	Phe 530	Glu	Val	Leu	Lys	Ala 535	Phe	Val	Val	Asp	Met 540	Met	Glu	Arg	Leu
	rg 45	Ile	Ser	Gln	Lys	Trp 550	Val	Arg	Val	Ala	Val 555	Val	Glu	Tyr	His	Asp 560
G	ly	Ser	His	Ala	Tyr 565	Ile	Gly	Leu	Lys	Asp 570	Arg	Lys	Arg	Pro	Ser 575	Glu
L	eu	Arg	Arg	Ile 580	Ala	Ser	Gln	Val	Lys 585	-	Ala	Gly	Ser	Gln 590	Val	Ala
٤	er	Thr	Ser 595	Glu	Val	Leu	Lys	Tyr 600	Thr	Leu	Phe	Gln	Ile 605	Phe	Ser	Lys
I	le	Asp 610	Arg	Pro	Glu	Ala	Ser 615	Arg	Ile	Thr	Leu	Leu 620	Leu	Met	Ala	Ser
	ln 25	Glu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Met 630	Ser	Arg	Asn	Phe	Val 635	Arg	Tyr	Val	Gln	Gly 640
I	eu	Lys	Lys	Lys	Lys 645	Val	Ile	Val	Ile	Pro 650	Val	Gly	Ile	Gly	Pro 655	His
P	la	Asn	Leu	660 Lys		Ile	Arg	Leu	Ile 665	Glu	Lys	Gln	Ala	Pro 670	Glu	Asn
I	iλa	Ala	Phe 675	Val	Leu	Ser	Ser	Val 680	Asp	Glu	Leu	Glu	Gln 685	Gln	Arg	Asp
G	lu	Ile 690	Val	Ser	Tyr	Leu	Cys 695	Asp	Leu	Ala	Pro	Glu 700	Ala	Pro	Pro	Pro
	hr '05	Leu	Pro	Pro	Asp	Met 710	Ala	Gln	Val	Thr	Val 715	Gly	Pro	Gly	Leu	

The invention claimed is:

- 1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising: (i) a Von Willebrand Factor (VWF) fragment comprising up to 800 45 amino acids and one or more domains selected from the group consisting of trypsin-inhibitor-like (TIL'), E', and D3 and (ii) a B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule with an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2, wherein SEQ ID NO:2 is modified by a deletion of its C-terminal R.
- 2. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the B domain-truncated Factor VIII from N-terminal to C-terminal consists of amino acid residues 1-750, 1638-1647, and 1649-2332 of SEQ ID NO: 1 and, wherein an O-glycan is linked to the Ser 750 amino acid residue.
- 3. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule is conjugated with at least one half-life extending moiety.
- 4. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein the at least one half-life extending moiety is covalently attached to an O-glycan linked to the B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule at an amino acid residue within the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2, 65 wherein SEQ ID NO:2 is modified by the deletion of the C-terminal R.

- 5. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the bioavailability of the B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule is at least 5% following subcutaneous administration.
- 6. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio between the B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule and VWF is 1:1.
- The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule is at least 500 IU/ml.
- **8**. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim **1**, wherein the amount of the B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule bound to the VWF fragment is at least 70% of the total amount of B domain-truncated the Factor VIII molecule in said composition.
- 9. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 for use in treating haemophilia, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is for subcutaneous administration.
- 10. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 for use in treating haemophilia, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is for intravenous administration.
- 11. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 for use in treating haemophilia, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is a freeze-dried composition.

- 12. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 for use in treating haemophilia, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is a liquid composition.
- 13. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the VWF fragment is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 58
- 14. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 for use in treatment of von willebrand disease by intravenous or subcutaneous administration.
- 15. The pharmaceutical composition according to one of claims 3 and 4, wherein the half-life extending moiety is poly(ethylene glycol).
- **16**. A pharmaceutical composition comprising: (i) a Von Willebrand Factor (VWF) fragment comprising up to 800 amino acids and one or more domains selected from the group consisting of trypsin-inhibitor-like (TIL'), E', and D3; (ii) a B

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domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule with an amino acid sequence from N-terminal to C-terminal consisting of amino acid residues 1-750, 1638-1647, and 1649-2332 of SEQ ID NO: 1 and (iii) a poly(ethylene glycol) moiety attached to the B domain-truncated Factor VIII molecule via an O-glycan linked to the Ser 750 amino acid residue.

- 17. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, wherein the VWF fragment is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 58.
- **18**. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim **17**, wherein the VWF fragment is SEQ ID NO: 19.
- **19**. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim **16**, wherein the molar ratio between the Factor VIII molecule and VWF is from 1:1 to 1:7.7.
- **20**. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20 **19**, wherein the molar ratio is 1:1.

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